

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## INTRODUCTION OF THE MOUNT NEBO WILDERNESS BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT

**HON. JAMES V. HANSEN**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Mount Nebo Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act.

The Mount Nebo Wilderness Area is located in the Uinta National Forest in Juab County, Utah. This is a very beautiful area, rich in biological diversity. Inside the Wilderness Area are streams teeming with Rainbow Trout, colonies of wildflowers during Spring and Summer, and beautiful mountain scenery. This area is also home to mule deer, elk, and moose. The Mount Nebo area undoubtedly deserves Wilderness protection.

Mount Nebo was designated a Wilderness Area in the Utah Wilderness Act of 1984, which I sponsored. However, during the legislative process, various oversights occurred because a map of the area was not adequately reviewed at the committee level. Erroneously included inside the boundaries were various preexisting developments to the water systems that have supplied clean water to Juab County since the late 1800s. These systems are in need of constant maintenance and care, and due to the restrictions on motorized vehicles in Wilderness Areas, it became very difficult—and sometimes impossible—to adequately maintain these facilities. In addition to these maintenance problems, the Wilderness Area includes a very small portion of private land that should not be inside the boundaries.

This bill will remedy this situation by adjusting the current boundary to exclude these water developments, and the small portion of private land. The boundary will then be modified to include an area of roadless Forest Service land to compensate for the boundary adjustment, resulting in a ten acre net-gain in the Wilderness Area. Thus, this bill results in a net gain of Wilderness acreage within the Mount Nebo Wilderness Area.

As this bill is non-controversial, I urge all of my colleagues to support the Mount Nebo Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN  
ALCEE L. HASTINGS IN TRIBUTE  
TO AND IN MEMORY OF MRS.  
EULA GANDY JOHNSON

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to express condolences for one of Florida's best known and most respected civil rights activists who passed away earlier this month. I am deeply saddened by

the loss of Mrs. Eula Gandy Johnson, a long-time personal friend and confidant, political supporter, and civil rights mentor.

Eula Gandy Johnson, well known to many as "Miss Eula," started her pioneering leadership in civil rights in Statenville, Georgia. A short time after, she moved on to Fort Lauderdale where she then lived for 62 years, bringing with her strong beliefs and passion for politics. She was simply a bold woman, who through her many contributions to human dignity, became an educator, opening our minds to the endless possibilities of an educated community. She was an immense resource for the National Conference of Community and Justice, to which she served as a strong supporter. Additionally, she was quite a strong force behind aspects of racial desegregation and discrimination to the African American community in Broward County.

Miss Eula was a graceful lady who epitomized dignity and charm. She had a deep, abiding faith in God, being a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church in Piney Grove and always enlightened those with her words of inspiration. She will always be remembered as having a keen mind with a way of achieving her goals with a certain fearless attitude.

It is often said that everyone is expendable, no matter their greatness. Eula Gandy Johnson, for her greatness, for the unselfish contributions that she made to the African American community throughout Florida, to her friends, and to all those who had the privilege to know her, is uniquely irreplaceable.

## RECOGNIZING CONSTITUENT SURVEY RESULTS FROM COLORADO

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I speak about Colorado's Fourth Congressional District and the opinions of my constituents concerning the direction their country is taking. The Fourth Congressional District covers the 21 counties of Colorado's eastern plains, and approximately half of the State. I would like to share with you the thoughts of thousands of citizens from Eastern Colorado by reporting the results of an opinion survey I sent to Fourth District constituents. On December 29, 2000 I asked each registered household in my district to respond to a mail-return opinion survey.

The survey asked, "What is the single most important issue facing our country today?" Respondents came back with a whole host of answers including preserving social security, the need for an effective missile defense system, our country's moral deterioration and the lack of immigration law enforcement.

An overwhelming majority of Colorado's Fourth District constituents believe taxes and education are the two most important issues facing American families today. In separate

questions, they voiced their opinions citing problems and solutions to these tough issues.

Responses concerning education included the need for parental involvement; smaller classroom sizes; school funds not reaching the classroom; worries over drugs and violence in schools and the demand for more local control. While the answers are varied, the message is the same: Parents expect quality public education and deserve to get the most for their tax dollar.

Colorado constituents are also concerned with a number of different tax issues. Last year I fought to repeal the death tax and marriage penalty taxes. Despite bipartisan support, Bill Clinton vetoed both these bills. Recently, I signed the National Taxpayer Protection Pledge promising to oppose all tax increases and continue opposing any efforts to spend Social Security funds on other government programs. Tax increases of any shape, size or form are wrong at a time when we have a budget surplus. My constituents expect me to balance the federal budget, provide needed tax relief, eliminate government waste, and save Social Security. I believe Coloradans should keep more of their hard-earned money for themselves and their children's futures, and I will continue to fight for this just cause.

Fourth District Coloradans, more than two-to-one, oppose partial birth abortions and overwhelmingly oppose second amendment gun rights being restricted. They also are concerned about our elderly and our veterans. I am proud to fight for the soldiers, sailors and airmen who valiantly defended our country, and I will continue to ensure our nation keeps its promise to our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opinion survey responses I received. I shall consider this valuable input and share it with colleagues. As one of my constituents said, "P.S.—Thanks for asking." The voice of the people is the cornerstone of our political system and I encourage constituents throughout the country to share their thoughts with their elected officials. As a public servant, I asked, and as always will listen and work for the betterment of Colorado and this great nation.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX RELIEF AND MARRIAGE PENALTY ELIMINATION ACT OF 2001

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will provide substantial tax relief to all American taxpayers and entirely eliminate the marriage penalty.

The federal government taxes Americans too much. In fact, Washington is taxing our citizens at the highest rate ever during peacetime. This high level of over-taxation is helping to generate ever-larger surpluses. Not surprisingly, many Washington politicians want to use

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

these tax overcharges to increase the size and scope of the federal government. Like President Bush, I believe that a government with unlimited funds becomes a government with unlimited reach. Thus, he is correct when he states that the solution is stop taking this excess money from the people who earn it in the first place.

At the same time the federal government is taking more than its fair share from our hard working Americans, our federal tax laws have become more and more confusing as special interests line up to get tax breaks. What we need to do is provide substantial tax relief in a simple and fair manner.

The first part of my bill is based on President Bush's across-the-board tax cut proposal. It will simplify and reduce the existing 15%, 28%, 31%, 36%, and 39.6% tax rates with four lower rates of 10%, 15%, 25%, and 33% over a period of 5 years. My tax plan will mean lower taxes for all working Americans.

Time and again, history has demonstrated that across-the-board tax relief has significant, positive economic benefits. Each time in the last century that tax rates were lowered, an economic boom followed. This was most recently demonstrated in the last 20 years. Under strong leadership, the malaise and stagflation of the 1970s melted into the prosperity of the 1980s. And the economic growth of the 1980s provided the venture capital to seed the technology revolution of the 1990s. The turning point of this remarkable economic transformation came on August 13, 1981, when President Reagan signed into law the largest tax relief bill in American history. The 25% across-the-board cut in income taxes, combined with prudent deregulation and anti-inflation monetary policies, helped unleash the longest economic boom in the 20th century. It is clear that providing tax relief in this manner will generate millions of jobs, raise living standards for tens of millions of Americans and increase our collective national wealth by several trillions of dollars.

Tax relief should encourage personal opportunity and economic growth instead of attempting to manipulate individual behavior based on Washington values. We must move away from Washington picking winners and losers by its manipulation of our country's tax laws. Recently, Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve System, reiterated his long-standing professional opinion that across-the-board tax relief is economically the best way to provide tax relief. Importantly, he stressed the unarguable point that Washington politicians will spend the current national surplus if it is not returned to its rightful owners, the American taxpayers. Consequently, Mr. Greenspan now agrees that we must make across-the-board tax relief a top policy goal.

The second part of my bill will immediately eliminate the marriage penalty in our tax code. This legislation rewrites the existing discriminatory tax laws in order to ensure that married couples will never be penalized on the account of their marital status. Married couples will be able to get standard deduction that is twice the amount of single tax filers. Currently, the standard deduction for a single American is \$4,550 but the married couple only gets \$7,550. Under my bill the married couple will get a standard deduction in the amount of \$9,100, which is twice the amount of the single standard deduction.

Importantly, my bill will also ensure that all income brackets are adjusted so that the mar-

ried brackets are twice the amount of the single brackets. Currently, American families pay a marginal tax rate of 28% on income above \$46,000, while an unmarried couple pays a marginal tax rate of 15% on total income up to \$54,000. That's just plain wrong. My bill will ensure that American families never pay a higher marginal tax rate than an unmarried couple.

It is simply wrong that Washington is punishing our American families by taxing our traditional values. Increasingly, our sons and daughters can not afford to marry. Consequently, they are less likely to dedicate themselves to their relationship and their children. We must eliminate this perverse disincentive for all American families.

I urge my colleagues to join me in providing meaningful tax relief for all taxpayers and immediately eliminating the marriage penalty in our tax laws.

### HONORING SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

#### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, today I remember an icon in California public service and a true role model for elected officials. Senator Alan Cranston embodied many attributes that symbol his dedication and commitment to serving the constituents he represented.

Senator Cranston spent 32 years in public office, including twenty-four as a United States Senator and rose to become a powerful force in the Democratic Party. After founding the California Democratic Council and winning two terms as state Controller, Alan Cranston was elected to the United States Senate in 1968, where he served until his retirement in 1993. Always a defender of the less fortunate, Senator Cranston fought for citizens of all races, ethnicities and income brackets, firmly believing that part of the American Dream was equality and opportunity for everyone.

In recognition of his astute leadership and perseverance, Senator Cranston was elected Majority Whip by his colleagues from 1977–1981 and 1987–1991 and served as Minority Whip from 1981–1987.

One of Senator Cranston's most admirable causes was his passionate advocacy of arms control. He was a profound believer in the United Nations and joined with former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to set up the Gorbachev Foundation USA, dedicated to eliminating nuclear weapons.

On a personal note, Senator Cranston was a frequent visitor to my 34th Congressional district where he would attend receptions at the Whittier home of our mutual constituents Kauzo and Mary Miyashita in support of the California Democratic Party. That is where my husband Frank and I first met the Senator in the mid 1980's.

Alan Cranston will be remembered as a superb mechanic of the political process and for being one of California's and the nation's most devout public servants. His leadership should inspire us all and I am proud to celebrate his life and his causes.

### ASHCROFT NOMINATION

#### HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following resolution of the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers regarding the nomination of John D. Ashcroft as Attorney General of the United States.

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK LAWYERS ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO THE NOMINATION OF JOHN D. ASHCROFT AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF UNITED STATES

The North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers, founded in 1971 and representing over 800 African American Lawyers in North Carolina is dedicated to the pursuit of equal justice for all people. In defense of rights of African Americans and all persons believing in the pursuit of equal justice, we announce our active opposition to the confirmation of John A. Ashcroft for Attorney General of the United States. Our opposition is based upon Mr. Ashcroft's demonstrated hostility to ensuring equal justice and access to justice for all Americans.

The Attorney General is responsible for vigorous enforcement of our nation's civil rights laws—pursuing those laws in a fair, vigorous and consistent manner.

Ashcroft has opposed appropriately tailored race-conscious measures designed to remedy present and past discrimination. He even opposes programs that are constitutionally permissible under current Supreme Court precedent.

He repeatedly sponsored legislation to end affirmative action programs in employment, contracting and public programs. He sponsored legislation to end the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Minority and Women Business Program. He also sponsored legislation to make provisions similar to California's Proposition 209—which banned affirmative action—a part of federal law.

He opposed Bill Lann Lee because Mr. Lee expressed support for constitutionally permissible affirmative action programs—applying an ideological litmus test to this nomination as he has with judicial nominations. Ashcroft's efforts helped to prevent a vote before the full United States Senate.

As Attorney General and then as Governor, Ashcroft vigorously opposed efforts to desegregate St. Louis' public schools. His opposition was so great that the court almost ordered the State in contempt citing "continual delay and failure to comply" with a court order to submit a voluntary desegregation plan.

Governor Ashcroft vetoed legislation that would have allowed private non-profit, civic, religious and political groups to register voters in the City of St. Louis, he later vetoed a bill that would have allowed such registration in all of Missouri.

During testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ashcroft said that he believed in and supported the President's ideas, which he termed "affirmative access"—already at work in California, Texas and Florida. He calls these programs which end affirmative action and have curtailed meaningful equal educational opportunities for women and minorities—a "good idea."

The Attorney General is the gatekeeper to the federal judiciary—playing a key role in whom the President selects for the federal bench.

Ashcroft has repeatedly blocked the consideration of qualified nominees. His record

shows that, as a Senator, he has repeatedly used tactics to block and delay votes on qualified women and minorities nominated to the federal courts.

Senator Ashcroft's decisive role in sabotaging the nomination of a well qualified African American, Judge Ronnie White, to the federal bench points to his disregard for judicial independence and his willingness to use ideological litmus tests in the judicial selection process.

Ashcroft spearheaded the party-line vote to defeat Judge Ronnie White's confirmation to a federal district court judgeship. He did this by misrepresenting Judge White's record, labeling him pro-criminal because of his death penalty record even though White voted to uphold the death penalty over 70% of the time.

The Attorney General should have the temperament, objectivity and commitment to fairness necessary to carry the awesome responsibilities of Attorney General.

Ashcroft's fervent and long-term commitment to his extremist political beliefs call into question his ability to suppress those political beliefs and enforce the constitutional principles with which he so profoundly disagrees. This extremist ideology also raises questions about his objectivity.

As a member of the Senate he made racially insensitive comments to Southern Partisan magazine that were divisive. Ashcroft applauded the magazine for its "heritage of doing that, of defending Southern patriots like [Robert E.] Lee, [Stonewall] Jackson, and [Jefferson] Davis." Southern Partisan has printed articles stating that African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and other immigrants have "no temperament for democracy, never had, [and] never will" and that these groups have dissipated the nation's "genetic race pool."

He further demonstrated his racial insensitivity when, as a United States Senator from a state with over 500,000 African Americans, he gave the commencement address and received an honorary degree from Bob Jones University, a school known for its racist policies and anti-Catholic bigotry. Although Ashcroft has claimed that he did not know about the policies of the University, he has refused to return the degree. The credibility of his denial is called into question when as governor he declined to appoint a professor to a state judgeship who had made supportive comments of the University in a law review article.

We are communicating our opposition to Senators Helms and Edwards as well as members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. We urge our membership to oppose vigorously this nomination. We join the multitude of organizations opposing this nomination.

#### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA ON JANUARY 26, 2001, AND SUPPORT FOR ONGOING AID EFFORTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my sympathy for the victims of the earthquake in Gujarat state in India, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution, which demonstrates our commitment here in Congress to the victims of this tragedy.

Over the past few days, Americans have been confronted with images of the devastation in Western India. Of course, Americans of Indian descent have been concerned for their family and friends. But no American who saw the extent of the tragedy in Gujarat could be unmoved by the fate of the citizens of our sister democracy. Americans and Indians share a bond forged by shared values. And that bond has motivated Americans to ask their government to play an active role in assisting the victims of this earthquake.

Thankfully, the administration has been quick to respond. By Sunday morning, an assessment team from the United States Agency for International Development was on the ground in Gujarat, determining needs and offering immediate comfort to victims. Since that time, the United States has provided generators, water purification equipment, tents and food to assist the survivors. The United States is continuing to work with relief agencies to get more critical assistance into the crisis zone as soon as possible. My colleagues and I in the Caucus for India and Indo-Americans have been working with the administration to minimize any roadblocks which could prevent the delivery of assistance.

I commend the administration for their quick response. But we here in Congress must ensure that as the immediate shock of this tragedy fades, our commitment to the victims does not fade along with it. Long after this earthquake passes from the headlines of American papers, we need to remember that people in Gujarat will be working to rebuild their homes, their businesses, and their lives. The leaders of our nation, the world's oldest democracy, must never forget our bond with the people of India, the world's largest democracy. I have written to the President and the Director of the United States Agency for International Development to urge them to show their commitment to assist India in the aftermath of this crisis. I will be working over the coming months to ensure that the United States provides what ever is necessary to ease the suffering of the victims of the Gujarat earthquake.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS MINUTEMAN MARCHING BAND

**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the University of Massachusetts Minuteman Marching Band on its appearance in the 2001 Presidential Inaugural Parade. The Minuteman Marching Band was nominated by the Governor of Massachusetts and was selected by the Inaugural Committee to appear in the parade.

The Minuteman Marching Band has long been recognized for its excellence, receiving the prestigious Sudler Trophy in 1998. In addition, the band has a history of participation in Presidential inaugural festivities. The Minutemen marched in the 1981 Presidential Inaugural Parade and performed at the Inaugural Ceremonies in 1985.

The band, made up of 300 students, represents 16 states and over 90 Massachusetts communities. These talented students provide

an invaluable service to the student body of UMass-Amherst, and to the citizens of the state of Massachusetts. They performed admirably in the 2001 Inaugural Parade, and everyone from the UMass community is proud of their achievement. I am pleased to recognize the band's director, George Parks, and all the students in the band for their outstanding performance.

#### SUPPORT THE MONTGOMERY G.I. BILL IMPROVEMENTS ACT

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleague and fellow veteran, LANE EVANS, in reintroducing the Montgomery G.I. Bill Improvements Act. H.R. 1071 had the support of 160 of my colleagues in the 106th Congress, all of whom recognized, like our new Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi, that improving the military's primary education benefit, the Montgomery G.I. Bill, is wise policy for a number of reasons. It will reverse the military's deteriorating ability to recruit the number and quality of individuals it needs; it provides veterans the tools necessary to reenter the workforce; and, it expands access to higher education to the young men and women in uniform.

In 1999, the Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance, chaired by now Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi, recommended overhauling and greatly improving the G.I. Bill. Our legislation is modeled on the Commission's recommendation, and I am encouraged and hopeful that the new Administration will work with us to pass this important bill. Clearly, Sec. Principi's appointment is a positive development.

America's military supremacy has been unquestioned since the end of the Cold War. In the Gulf War, Bosnia, and Kosovo we proved that our armed forces set the world standard for excellence. While much of our battlefield success has to do with the superiority of our weapons systems, weapons are only as good as the people who operate them. Our success on the battlefield boils down to the quality and ability of our troops.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the military is having increasing difficulty recruiting the quantity and quality of troops it needs to meet today's challenges. Recruiting shortfalls are a serious problem, and as statistics have grown worse, recruiting budgets have soared. In addition to new advertising campaigns, the services have resorted to gimmicks, including sponsoring drag racers, deploying psychedelic humvees, and offering emergency cash giveaways. I do not criticize the armed forces for these efforts, but they highlight the need for a greater, more effective recruiting tool. The best recruiting tool is education, and we would best help our armed forces by modernizing the military's primary education benefit, the Montgomery G.I. Bill.

The Department of Defense's Youth Attitude Tracking Studies (YATS) confirm that fewer young men and women are considering serving. This shouldn't come as a surprise. "Money for college" is the top reason young

men and women choose to serve. College costs have quadrupled in the last 20 years, but the G.I. Bill hasn't. At the same time, more nonservice financial assistance has become available, which has benefited society but not the military.

Today's G.I. Bill does not provide enough assistance to attract the number of high quality high school graduates the armed forces need, especially when considering the risks of service. This has forced the military to accept lower quality recruits. Statistics tell us that lower quality recruits, as measured by aptitude tests, have a much greater attrition rate. Troops that fail to make it through training or fulfill their service obligations cost taxpayers dearly.

The Montgomery GI Bill Improvements Act ensures that our all volunteer armed forces have the ability to attract quality recruits, and provides veterans with skills to better our economy and their lives. In exchange for four years of service, our legislation would provide servicemembers a benefit covering the full cost of tuition, fees and books and provide a subsistence allowance. Those opting for a shorter enlistment or enrolled in the current program would earn a basic benefit of \$900/month. Our legislation is not inexpensive, but we must invest to stay the best. The young men and women who will benefit from this legislation will have to earn it through service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us in standing up for our armed forces, servicemembers and veterans by supporting this much needed legislation.

#### HIGH-ACHIEVEMENT FOR SILVER GROVE HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Silver Grove High School. This is a success story about a school in a high poverty district that has overcome adversity and has become one of the models in education reform.

Silver Grove High School is one of eight schools to be recognized by Kentucky's Commissioner of Education for its outstanding performance in Kentucky's state testing program. Silver Grove High performed so well that it has become a model of the best Kentucky's public schools have to offer.

I rise today to commend Silver Grove High School and all of the educators, staff and students of this fine educational institution. I ask you to join me in congratulating Silver Grove High School and the entire community of Silver Grove on their achievements.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAYOR AND MRS. BILL HEXT

#### HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mayor Bill Hext and Jane Hext for

their tremendous contributions to the city of Odessa, Texas. They were recently honored by being named "Outstanding Citizen(s) of the Year" for 2000.

The "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" award was established some 44 years ago to recognize those who dedicate their time, talent and resources to improve the quality of life for the community. Mayor and Mrs. Hext are more than civil servants, but also leaders and role models.

Their commitment to public and community service and their adherence to family- and faith-based principles truly make them ideal for such an honor. Mayor Hext has been actively involved in such organizations as the Texas Municipal League, the MOTRAN policy advisory committee and Grace Christian Fellowship, serving in various leadership positions. He was inducted into the Business Hall of Fame in 1995 in recognition of his entrepreneurial ventures in two successful businesses and served as a member of the City Council for two years. Last May Mayor Hext was elected mayor of Odessa with the focus to continue the successes and build upon new opportunities in education, health care and the economy.

Mrs. Hext has dedicated her time and talents over the years to the Ector County Independent School District schools, Meals on Wheels, the Girl Scouts, Operation Blessing, and the Boys and Girls Club of Odessa. Mayor and Mrs. Hext went above and beyond the call to service when they established the Hext Family Foundation committed to providing resources to foster educational, medical and faith-based organizations in Odessa.

It is with great pride that I commend Mayor Bill Hext and Jane Hext for their active involvement and leadership in the community and I congratulate them on being awarded the "Outstanding Citizen(s) of the Year."

#### CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS. MARY COOK, CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON, V.A. REGIONAL OFFICE, DECATUR, GEORGIA

#### HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mary Cook for her contributions to the veterans of the State of Georgia. Over the past 34 years, Mrs. Cook, who works in the V.A. Regional Office in Decatur, Georgia, has gone above and beyond the call of duty. She has always assisted my office and other legislative offices in providing courteous, expeditious and judicial treatment of veterans in the Southeast area.

Mrs. Cook began her career in federal service in 1960 with the Federal Aviation Agency. In 1970, she came on board with the Veterans Administration, where she has remained for the last 30 years.

In all our dealings Mrs. Cook has never allowed cases to languish in government red tape. She has always been very aggressive in pursuing these cases and making sure our office was kept informed of all developments.

She has taken on many special projects over the years, including serving as the VA

Regional Office Women's Veterans Coordinator from January 1993 to March 2000. As the WVC, Mrs. Cook interviewed, counseled and provided help to women veterans seeking specialized assistance. She also worked with the Women Veterans Committees at the Georgia VA Medical Centers to insure coordinated services and assistance were provided to women veterans.

Mr. Speaker, we often overlook the daily sacrifices and dedication of federal employees. Mrs. Cook is an example of a federal employee who not only takes pride in her work, but has a true dedication to the people she is charged with serving. As she retires from federal service and goes on to another phase in her life, please join me in congratulating her on a job well done and wishing her the very best in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO RETIRING CARRIER EXECUTIVE T. HUME LAIDMAN

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I want to congratulate a man from my New York's 25th Congressional District whose distinguished career has contributed to the growth and prosperity of a major employer in Central New York. This month, Mr. T. Hume Laidman will retire from the Carrier Corporation division of United Technology after 44 dedicated years of service.

Since 1957, Mr. Laidman has served in five different divisions of Carrier, participating in the company's growth from a largely domestic supplier to a truly global leader in its industry. Mr. Laidman has personally overseen the opening of manufacturing plants on five continents, and since 1997 as Vice President of Operations for Carrier Refrigeration, he has played a key role in establishing its refrigeration division, which has its worldwide headquarters in Syracuse, as a \$3 billion operation.

Raised in Florida, Mr. Laidman spent summers as a youth visiting his godmother in Cazenovia, New York. After graduating from the University of Miami, Mr. Laidman decided to pursue his career and raise his family in Central New York. While his vocation frequently took him to various countries, Mr. Laidman still found time to volunteer locally for the ski patrol at Song Mountain for more than 40 years.

Mr. Laidman's leadership at Carrier has contributed greatly to the organization's success and to its ability to support a large employee base, community organizations and civic betterment. On behalf of the people of the 25th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Mr. Laidman on his well-deserved retirement and to thank him for 44 years of service to Central New York. We wish him and his family the very best.

**PROBLEMS FOR TEENS WHO WORK: WE NEED THE "YOUNG AMERICAN WORKERS BILL OF RIGHTS"**

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, during the 106th Congress, over 60 Members of Congress joined me in support of comprehensive domestic child labor law reform which would protect our children in the workplace. This bipartisan legislation—entitled “The Young American Workers’ Bill of Rights Act” (H.R. 2119 in the 106th Congress)—would assist both families and teenagers’ struggling with the competing interests of holding a job while gaining an education. The legislation will also reduce the incidence of injuries and deaths of minors at the workplace. I look forward to reintroducing this important bill early in the 107th Congress.

As we continue our efforts to combat the injustice of international child labor, we must not forget our own children here. The exploitation of child labor is unfortunately not a thing of the past in our country. It has become a growing problem that continues to jeopardize the health, education, development and lives of many of our children.

People often associate the evils of child labor only with Third World countries. But American teenagers are also negatively impacted by exploitation on the job. Our economy has changed considerably since the days when teenagers held after school jobs at a “Mom and Pop” corner drug store or soda fountain. In today’s low unemployment economy, teenagers are hired to work part-time to fill-in or to hold jobs previously held by adults in full-time positions. Many high-school students are working 30 and even 40 hours a week, and often they are working well past midnight on school nights. Research shows that long hours on the job take away time needed for schoolwork and family responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, studies have shown that the majority of children and teenagers who hold jobs in the United States are not working to support their families, but rather are employed to earn extra spending money. Employment is important in teaching young people the value of work, and I see nothing wrong with minors working to earn extra spending money. I think it is a serious problem, however, when teenagers work more hours for spending money than they spend working for their education. It is important for children to learn the value of work, but a solid education, not after school jobs, are the key to a successful future. We need to set sensible limits on the hours that minors are permitted to work during the school year so that our children can focus on their primary job—earning a good education.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to an article which appeared in the New York Times recently entitled “Problems Seen For Teenagers Who Hold Jobs” which was written by Steven Greenhouse. The article discusses some of the problems many teenagers face when they hold a job during the school year. According to the article, a study of the National Academy of Sciences found that when teenagers work

more than 20 hours a week, it often leads to lower grades, higher alcohol use and too little time with parents and families.

Mr. Speaker, I will place the entire text of this article in the RECORD, but I would like to call special attention to a couple of paragraphs that are particularly indicative of the problems we face:

“One recent Friday, Alicia, [a] waitress, a senior at Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights, N.J., acknowledged that she had put in a grueling week. Alicia, who works at Johnny Rockets, a 1950’s-style diner at the Short Hills Mall, had missed one day of school that week and arrived late the four other days. The reason was that she had to work past midnight on Tuesday and Thursday, and that came after working from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

“It’s fun, and I get a lot of money—I made \$240 on Saturday alone,” she said, noting that she sometimes earns \$40 in tips in an hour when it’s busy.

“I’m not doing good in school this semester,” Alicia acknowledged, her tone half rueful, half isn’t-this-cool. “Because of work, I come into school late or I stay home because I’m so tired.”

“Joan Tonto, one of Alicia’s teachers, said, ‘She’s tired when she comes into school, and by sixth period she’s too tired to work on problems in class. I’ve talked to Alicia about how her job is affecting her in school, and she says, ‘I’m making a lot of money, Mrs. Tonto.’”

Mr. Speaker, it is clear to me from reading these excerpts and from reviewing a recent study by the National Academy of Sciences, that it is time for us to carefully weigh the benefits of children working against the costs that too much work can take on a child’s academic performance and healthy development. At what point does the desire to earn extra spending money negatively effect the ability of a child to perform to her or his learning potential at school? According to Steven Greenhouse, 16- and 17-year-olds are working 40 hours a week on top of 30 hours in the classroom and in many cases education is taking a back seat to after school employment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire article “Problems Seen For Teenagers Who Hold Jobs” be placed in the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read this article and to join me in cosponsoring “The Young American Workers’ Bill of Rights Act.” This legislation will ensure that the job opportunities available to our youth are meaningful, safe, and healthy, and our bill will encourage—not discourage—their healthy development and will give them the tools to help prepare them for a productive adult life.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 29, 2001]

PROBLEMS SEEN FOR TEENAGERS WHO HOLD JOBS

(By Steven Greenhouse)

Some weekdays, Alicia Gunther, 17, works past midnight as a waitress at a New Jersey mall, and she readily admits that her work often hurts her grades and causes her to sleep through first period.

Jason Ferry, a high school junior, loves working 30 hours a week as a cashier at a Connecticut supermarket, but he acknowledges that when he gets home from work at 9:30 p.m. he usually does not have enough time to study for big tests.

For decades, the conventional wisdom has been that it is great for teenagers like these to hold after-school jobs because they teach responsibility, provide pocket money and keep the teenagers out of trouble.

But in a nation where more than five million teenagers under 18 work, a growing body of research is challenging the conventional wisdom and concluding that working long hours often undermines teenagers’ education and overall development.

In the most important study, two arms of the National Academy of Sciences—the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine—found that when teenagers work more than 20 hours a week, the work often leads to lower grades, higher alcohol use and too little time with their parents and families.

Influenced by such studies, lawmakers in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Alabama and other states have pushed in recent years to tighten laws regulating how many hours teenagers can work and how late they can work. In Massachusetts, several lawmakers are seeking to limit the maximum amount of time 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds can work during school weeks to 30 hours, down from the current maximum of 48 hours.

In 1998, Connecticut lawmakers reduced the maximum number of hours 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds can work during school weeks to 32 hours, down from 48, and last year they debated imposing fines on employers who violate those limits. In New York, students that age are allowed to work up to 28 hours during school weeks, while in New Jersey the maximum is 40 hours.

The impetus to tighten restrictions grows largely out of concerns about education, especially fears that American students are falling short on tougher standards and are lagging behind foreign students in comparative tests. While there are myriad reasons for poor school performance, legislators seeking tougher restrictions say American students would certainly do better if they placed more emphasis on work inside school and less emphasis on working outside school.

“We have 16- and 17-year-olds working 40 hours a week on top of 30 hours in the classroom,” said Peter J. Larkin, the Massachusetts state representative sponsoring the bill to reduce the number of hours teenagers can work. “Something has to give, and academics seems to be taking a back seat. Sure there is pressure against the bill from employers who need teenage workers to help in a full-employment economy, but many other employers are complaining that the graduates of our high schools are not up to par.”

With the national jobless rate at 4 percent, near its lowest point in three decades, many employers are eager to hire teenagers and say it would be bad for the economy and for their businesses to limit the number of hours teenagers can work.

In many states, those pushing for tougher restrictions include pediatricians’ groups, P.T.A.’s, women’s clubs, teachers’ unions and the National Consumer League. Those opposing tighter restrictions usually include business groups and the many parents who see benefits in teenagers’ working, and who have warm memories of their own first jobs as soda jerks or supermarket clerks.

Studies by the National Research Council and professors at Stanford University, Temple University and the University of Minnesota found negative effects when 16- and 17-year-olds work more than 20 hours a week. These studies concluded that students who work long hours often do not have enough time or energy for homework and miss out on social and intellectual development gained from participating in school clubs and athletic teams.

Several studies also found that 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who work long hours tend to use alcohol more than others in their age group, largely because they have extra pocket money and copy older co-workers.

“It’s probably safe for kids to work 10 hours or less each week when they’re in

school, but probably not such a good idea for them to work more than 20 hours," said Laurence Steinberg, a professor of psychology at Temple University. "That's when we and other researchers find decreased academic performance and decreased engagement in school."

But many child development experts, teachers and parents said working a modest amount could be valuable for teenagers, teaching responsibility and how to work with others, as well as contributing money to financially strapped households.

"It's a positive thing," said Ted Simonelli, a guidance counselor at Linden High School in New Jersey. "They're learning to be on time, they're learning to be good employees, they're learning a skill that they can trade on when they graduate. Many of the students in the top half of our class work after school."

For teenagers in poor city neighborhoods, several studies have found, a job can be especially beneficial because it fosters discipline and provides needed role models.

Supporters of teenage work point to success stories like Josh Hershey, 16, of West Hartford, Conn., who took a job at an after-school child care center because it would help prepare him for the career to which he aspires: teaching. His job helped his schoolwork, he said, because it forced him to procrastinate less and focus more when doing homework.

"There are a lot of benefits to students' working in moderation," said Jeylan T. Mortimer, a sociology professor at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. "But most sociologists and psychologists would say that it's an excessive load for full-time students to work 25 or 30 hours a week if you think it's important for young people to participate in extracurricular activities, develop friendships and spend time with their families."

A newly released study by the Department of Labor shows that 58 percent of American 16-year-olds hold jobs sometime during the school year, not including informal work like baby-sitting, while another study shows that one-third of high-school juniors work 20 or more hours each week. The Department of Labor also found that slightly more than two-fifths of 15-year-olds work, as do one in five 14-year-olds.

Several economists said the percentage of teenagers who work has remained at the same level in recent years. Although the statistics are sketchy, these experts said they believed that the number of hours students work has increased, partly because of the tight labor market.

A new study by the International Labor Organization showed that American teenagers work far more than teenagers in most other countries. The study found that 53 percent of American teenagers, from the ages of 16 to 19, work in any given week. In Japan, 18 percent of teenagers aged 15 through 19 work, while in Germany, 30.8 percent of teenagers in that age bracket work.

One recent Friday, Alicia, the waitress, a senior at Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights, N.J., acknowledged that she had put in a grueling week. Alicia, who works at Johnny Rockets, a 1950's-style diner at the Short Hills Mall, had missed one day of school that week and arrived late the four other days.

The reason was that she had to work past midnight on Tuesday and Thursday, and that came after working from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

"It's fun, and I get a lot of money—I made \$240 on Saturday alone," she said, noting that she sometimes earns \$40 in tips in an hour when it is busy.

"I'm not doing good in school this semester," Alicia acknowledged, her tone half rue-

ful, half isn't-this-cool. "Because of work, I come into school late or I stay home because I'm so tired."

Joan Tonto, one of Alicia's teachers, said, "She's tired when she comes into school, and by sixth period she's too tired to work on problems in class. I've talked to Alicia about how her job is affecting her in school, and she says, 'I'm making a lot of money, Mrs. Tonto.'"

Teenage labor dates from colonial times, when many youths served as apprentices or helped sow and harvest. But with the nation's rapid industrialization came heightened concerns about teenage labor because of the increased emphasis on education and the many exposés about businesses exploiting children.

Still, many parents urge their children to work, saying it is better than sitting around watching television.

Laura Stifel, whose son Jason Ferry has the 30-hour-a-week supermarket job in Southington, Conn., saw a benefit to teenagers' working. "I think it's great that kids work because it leaves them with less time to get in trouble or be out on the street," she said.

But when she began to worry that Jason's \$7.75-an-hour job was taking a toll on his grades, Ms. Stifel barred him from using his car until he got his grades back up.

In the summer of 1999, a 16-year-old Southington High School student working at an amusement park died when he stepped too close to the amusement ride he was tending and was dragged underneath. About 70 teenagers die each year in work-related accidents, and safety experts say these accidents occur because teenage workers often receive little training or supervision.

Federal regulations bar 12-year-olds and 13-year-olds from working in most jobs, with one exception being delivering newspapers. Federal rules prohibit 14- and 15-year-olds from working more than three hours or past 7 p.m. on school days. The federal government places no restrictions on the hours 16- and 17-year-olds can work, leaving the matter to the states.

Jeffrey Ellenberg, who owns a dry-cleaning shop in West Hartford, likes hiring teenagers.

"We used to have quite a few more high school students working," he said. "Unfortunately, in this economy we can't get more of them. The advantage is you can train them to do what full-timers do, but you don't have to pay them the full-time wages and benefits."

At Mr. Ellenberg's shop, Rebecca Gohsler, 16, works two or three afternoons a week behind the counter and 10 hours on Saturdays. Although Rebecca's guidance counselor frets that Rebecca's job is pulling down her grades and pulling her away from extracurricular activities, Rebecca sees her \$8-an-hour job as one of the best things in her life. She likes the spending money, likes chatting with customers and likes the sense of independence.

Rebecca, who hopes to become a marine biologist, said her job sometimes undercut her schoolwork. "If I just came home from work and I have a paper to write, there is a chance I might not spend as much time on it or put in enough effort," she said.

Many educators say parents should crack down on their teenagers' jobs if grades start to languish. Carol Hawkins did just that last spring, ordering her son Jon, 16, a junior at Governor Livingston High, to cut back his 20 hours a week pumping gas when his grades started to suffer.

"This year I've been able to manage my work and my school better," Jon said. "But sometimes I still have to study until 2 in the morning."

Several studies have found that 20 percent to 30 percent of teenage workers contribute

to family expenses. Most use their earnings for cars, gasoline, clothes, cosmetics, cell phones, pagers and movies.

Dawne Naples, a guidance counselor at Southington High, said she advised Jason Ferry, when his grades were suffering, that it was unwise to work 30 hours a week, largely to pay for his car and gasoline. "The car will get you around town," I told him, "but what's going to get you beyond Southington High?" she said.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, 2001 I was in my Congressional District and missed two yeas and nay votes and one recorded vote. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

Roll No. 6, H. Con. Res. 14, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust, "yea".

Roll No. 7, H. Con. Res. 15, expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck India on January 26, 2001, and support for ongoing aid efforts, "yea".

Roll No. 8, Speaker's approval of the Journal of Tuesday, January 30, "aye".

## A TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN J. HAWKINS

### HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephen J. Hawkins, who is retiring as Postmaster of the city of Fresno after more than thirty-five years of service to the United States Postal Service.

Mr. Hawkins arrived in Fresno after a successful career with the Postal Service in San Francisco, San Diego, and Los Angeles. Mr. Hawkins has served the Fresno community in numerous ways.

As the city of Fresno has grown exponentially over the past few years, Mr. Hawkins was instrumental in increasing the number of postal stations in Fresno.

Mr. Hawkins' dedication to public service extends beyond his professional life. He was the chairman of the Fresno/Madera County Combined Federal Campaign from 1994 through 1999 and helped raise more than five hundred thousand dollars for local charities.

Mr. Hawkins has been a leader in community organizations, having served on the Board of Directors of Fresno United Way and President of the Federal Executive Association.

He has also encouraged postal employees to volunteer and contribute to the community to such events as the Juvenile Diabetes Walk and the American Cancer Society Run.

Mr. Hawkins has helped to raise public awareness of commemorative stamps honoring worthy causes and notable Americans, including the breast cancer awareness stamp,



the stamp honoring those who serve, the hospice stamp, and the adoption stamp.

Mr. Hawkins has been active in Fresno's civic life, working with the Sister Cities Organization and making a presentation and tour of the Fresno postal facilities to Fresno's sister city in China.

In recognition of Mr. Hawkins' outstanding communications and community outreach, he was awarded with the Postal Service's prestigious Benjamin Award for four years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Stephen J. Hawkins on his retirement and in wishing him continued success in the future.

#### LEADERSHIP WILKES-BARRE CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Leadership Wilkes-Barre on the occasion of its 20th anniversary. The mission of this distinguished organization is to develop informed and committed leaders from all segments of the community who will serve, strengthen and improve Northeastern Pennsylvania, and it is doing exactly that.

Leadership Wilkes-Barre began in 1981, when then-Chamber of Commerce Director John Sheehan proposed the idea to community leaders Tom Bigler, John Conyngham, Ed Schechter and the late Tom Kiley, who together formed the steering committee.

The inaugural class of 20 graduated in June 1982. Since then, the program has grown and now has 648 graduates, with a depth of experience and a diversity of backgrounds from India and Iran to Clarks Summit and Shickshinny. The graduates of Leadership Wilkes-Barre are putting their skills to work on hundreds of community projects and volunteer boards throughout the region and the state.

Since its founding, the organization has expanded by adding the Junior Leadership Wilkes-Barre program for high school students in 1986 and the Intercollegiate Leadership Wilkes-Barre program in 1987. The Intercollegiate program serves students from College Misericordia, Keystone College, King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Penn State Wilkes-Barre and Wilkes University.

In 1999, the organization developed Masters Leadership Wilkes-Barre, designed to give retired and semi-retired members of the community a chance to become more involved in community service. Over the 20 years of Leadership Wilkes-Barre's existence, there have been 2,013 participants in its programs.

Mr. Speaker, the driving force behind this record of accomplishment and service is Executive Director Sue Kluger, a founding board member who has led the organization since 1983. I am pleased to call her hard work and the many achievements of Leadership Wilkes-Barre to the attention of the House of Representatives, and I wish her and the fine organization she leads many more years of success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION I STATE CHAMPIONS—LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

#### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the 2000 Ludlow High School boys soccer team. This past season the Ludlow boys team compiled a record of 19–0–3 en route to earning the Smith Division League Championship, the Western Massachusetts Division I Championship, and the Massachusetts Division I State Championship. Their efforts enabled them to earn a top five ranking nationally.

Not only did the boys team finish the season undefeated, but their 2000 campaign marked the first time in Massachusetts history that a boys soccer team won four consecutive Western Massachusetts Division I titles. Also, the Lions have won back to back State titles, the first time this has been done in Massachusetts in 35 years. Ludlow High School has a fine and proud tradition in boys soccer play. The school has earned thirteen State titles and twenty-six Western Massachusetts championships.

At the Lions' coaching helm was Tony Goncalves. He and his staff have fine tuned their team's athletic skill and have instilled poise, discipline, and sportsmanship into their players. Coach Goncalves and his staff have certainly earned their reputation as one of the finest coaching staffs in all of New England. I would also like to note that included in this year's team are seven players that were named to the All-Western Massachusetts squad, three players named to the All-State team, and two players receiving All-New England honors.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the 2000 Ludlow High School boys soccer team. The seniors are: Helder Pires, Jay Devlin, Mike Pio, Joey Jorge, Ray Cheria, Brian Cochenour, Tim Romansky, Paulo Dias, Dennis Carvalho, Paulo Martins, Steve Jorge, Manny Goncalves, and Chris Chelo. Juniors include: Joe Shanley, Seth Falconer, Kevin Keough, and Sebastian Priest. The Sophomores are: Kevin Chelo, Sven Pfefferkorn, Michael Lima, Tyler Severyn, Josh Naginewicz, Casey Siok, and Corey Mange. The Head Coach is Tony Goncalves. Assistant Coaches are Jack Vilaca, Greg Kolodziej, and Dan Pires. Team managers are Sarah Russell, Jill Dube, and Jenn Russell.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to send my congratulations to the Ludlow High School boys soccer team on their outstanding season. I wish them the best of luck in the 2001 season.

#### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA ON JANUARY 26, 2001, AND SUPPORT FOR ONGOING AID EFFORTS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it saddens me greatly to have to introduce this resolution along with my colleagues, our effort to support the victims of the catastrophic earthquake that struck India on January 26, 2001, on the very day the people of India were to celebrate the adoption of their first constitution as an independent people.

On January 26, the people of Gujarat in western India were hit with an earthquake the size and devastation of that which hit San Francisco in 1906 killing more than 30,000.

As a fellow democracy we must provide the people of India immediate relief, economic assistance and the reconstruction efforts needed to rebuild the lives and the state of Gujarat.

I have had the pleasure of visiting India on a number of occasions and have established a candid and sincere relationship with the Indian community, both in my congressional district in Florida and abroad.

Several governments have taken action and are providing assistance to the people of India in determining what needs are to be met during this critical time of despair. Notably, the government and people of Pakistan have been quick to send aid and much needed supplies. I am hopeful that their friendship will continue far beyond this difficult period. Moreover, I believe it is America's duty to lend a helping hand to our great neighbors.

India and its people need us and it is our duty to expedite immediate assistance in reconstructing their lives and concretely showing our continued friendship and support.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent for all legislative business during the week of January 29, 2001 through February 2, 2001, due to a medical condition. As a result, I missed the following votes: On Tuesday, January 30, 2001—question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended" (Roll No. 5) for issue H.R. 93—Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act. On Wednesday, January 31, 2001—question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree" (Roll No. 6) for issue H. Con. Res. 14—Permitting the Use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a Ceremony as part of the Commemoration of the Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust, question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree" (Roll No. 7) for issue H. Con. Res. 15—Expressing Sympathy for the Victims of the Devastating Earthquake that Struck India, and question "On Approving the Journal" (Roll No. 8) for issue Journal. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for

the question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended" for the issue H.R. 93 (Roll No. 5), "yea" for the question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree" for the issue H. Con. Res. 14 (Roll No. 6), "yea" for the question "On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree" for the issue H. Con. Res. 15 (Roll No. 7), and "yea" for the question "On Approving the Journal" (Roll No. 8) for the issue Journal.

#### REINTRODUCTION OF THE NAMING OF THE GARDNER C. GRANT POST OFFICE BUILDING

##### HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce legislation to rename the Post Office in Cherryfield, Maine after the town's long-time Postmaster, Gardner C. Grant.

In rural Maine, as in rural areas all across the country, the Post Office is more than just a place to get your mail, and the Postmaster is more than just an employee. The Post Office is a gathering place, where neighbors catch up and exchange information. The Postmaster is part of the community, sharing news and helping everyone.

Gardner Grant served as Postmaster in Cherryfield for a remarkable 27 years. He also has been an active part of the community, serving as a Selectman, Academy Trustee, Planning Board member and an assessor. Gardner and his family—his wife Virginia and their two sons—are part of the very fabric of this Down East Maine town.

Gardner's service has earned him the admiration and respect of the people of Cherryfield. To honor him, I have been asked to submit this legislation to designate the Gardner C. Grant Post Office Building. I am proud to do so. Gardner Grant has served Cherryfield with distinction, and I agree that naming the Post Office in his honor would be a fitting tribute. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation into law.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANSON IMPLEMENT, CO., OF HIGGINSVILLE, MO

##### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate the Anson family and my friends at Anson Implement, Co., of Higginsville, Missouri, who recently celebrated the company's 100th anniversary as a John Deere dealership.

The Anson family has contributed to the betterment of Lafayette County, MO, since they migrated from Kentucky and Tennessee in the 1830s. Born Moses Anson and later named "Mode", the great grandfather of current co-owner Joe Anson cherished all aspects of farming. Mode recognized the need for a country store that would benefit those who worked on farms and other businesses in rural Missouri. In 1897, he opened a lumber, hard-

ware, and building materials business in Aullville, MO, to assist these individuals. Four years later, in 1901, the Anson family, still committed to farming, opened a John Deere dealership that moved to Higginsville, MO, in 1917.

Through the years, Anson Implement, Co., has become an important part of the history of Higginsville. Established by Mode Anson, the implement dealership eventually passed into the hands of his son, Leslie Anson, then to his son, M.L. Anson. Both Leslie and M.L. worked in and learned the family business from a young age. In 1979, current co-owner Joe Anson began operating the implement company after attending Westminster College and working for six years at the Kansas City John Deere branch.

Indeed, through their commitments to farming, to their community, and to their country, four generations of Ansons have positively impacted the lives of many rural Missourians. As the residents of Lafayette County share in Anson Implement's 100th anniversary, I am certain that all Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this establishment and to the Anson family, Mary Lou Anson, Joe Anson, Jill Sutherland, Jan Weycker, and Jenny Gockel.

#### RECOGNIZING FREDDIE TIDWELL FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO CRAWFORD COUNTY, GEORGIA

##### HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a distinguished gentleman from Georgia's 8th District who has recently passed away, Freddie J. Tidwell.

Mr. Tidwell served four terms as Crawford County Commissioner and worked relentlessly to bring millions of dollars to Crawford County, Georgia. Additionally, he served Crawford County as Judge of Small Claims Court for 12 years, served in the U.S. Navy as an advisor to the South Korean Army during the Korean Conflict, and served as a Georgia State Representative.

Mr. Tidwell made a career of serving people, and we all know this world needs more people who are willing to put selfishness aside and dedicate themselves to serving their community and their country. As a Member of Congress from Georgia, I am fortunate to have known Mr. Tidwell and had many opportunities to work with him on issues facing both Crawford County and the state of Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, Georgia continues to be home to incredible leaders and public servants. Mr. Tidwell was one of those people. He was an outstanding American, and it is an honor to have known him.

#### SAN ANTONIO MOURNS THE LOSS OF POLICE OFFICER JOHN ANTHONY RIOJAS

##### HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today the San Antonio community mourns the loss of one of its young police officers, John Anthony Riojas. As his community grieves this week, not only should this officer's story be remembered, but so should the story of every law enforcement officer who takes risks daily to protect us.

This past Friday, Officer Riojas, a member of the Street Crimes Arrest Team unit and eleven-year veteran of the San Antonio Police force, was mortally shot while on duty. He was one of nine officers participating in an operation to stop a rash of property crimes plaguing an apartment complex. At the time of his fatal injury he was attempting to apprehend an individual on foot. He overtook the suspect, who reportedly shot the young officer with his own weapon.

Sadly, John Riojas, known to his friends as "Rocky," joins 42 other San Antonio police officers killed in the line of duty and is the fourth death of an officer in the past 45 days. We in this great House of Representatives join his family, fellow officers and many friends in mourning this tragic loss.

This 37-year old father of two was seen as a man who was trying to make the community a better place by those who worked with him. Officer Riojas graduated in 1982 from St. Gerard's Catholic High School in San Antonio. A star football player, his friends recall Riojas' excitement upon entering the police force because he wanted to make a difference. And he has.

Our condolences go out to his widow, two young children, and his entire family. His children, a two-year old daughter and a son of only eight weeks, have lost their father. Hopefully, they will always know his devotion and sacrifice on behalf of his community. All too often, we forget that our sense of safety is rooted in the work of law enforcement officers like John Riojas. His service and devotion to his family, community, and country exemplify the best in our society. May his children and family always see the work he did in their community and be proud of the example he set.

#### INTRODUCTION OF VETERANS RESOLUTION

##### HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, today I offer a resolution regarding some of the neediest and most deserving citizens of our country: elderly veterans. I was pleased to support efforts in the 106th Congress to make long-term care for our veterans a priority, but more remains to be done. My resolution calls for additional resources to be directed towards addressing Alzheimer's in the veteran population.

Alzheimer's, a degenerative brain disease, gradually causes a person to forget recent



events or familiar tasks. Attempts to perform basic daily functions can turn into dangerous situations, and the disease eventually forces the afflicted to become totally dependent on others.

Dementia, an umbrella term used to describe the loss of cognitive or intellectual function, is commonly associated with Alzheimer's. Caused by a number of diseases, dementia refers to memory loss, having difficulty making use of simple words, and poor or decreased judgement. In addition, dementia creates problems with abstract thinking and can result in personality changes.

Veterans are widely affected by dementia in general and Alzheimer's specifically. Nearly 8 million, 37% of the total veterans population, suffer from dementia caused by Alzheimer's. Due to the severity of this condition, and the inability of those afflicted to care for themselves, specialized care is needed.

Currently the Veterans Alzheimer's/Dementia Program includes both inpatient and outpatient clinics. Ranging from short-term behavioral stabilization to long-term comfort and supportive care, these clinics are designed to treat patients while research is conducted on their condition and treatment. However, with an aging population and corresponding rise in dementia cases, the resources of our veterans nursing homes are being strained. Currently there are a very small number of facilities dedicated to treating patients with Alzheimer's. In addition, the traditional nursing home model does not provide the most effective method of treatment.

While Alzheimer's remains incurable, progress is being made. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) researchers have discovered a genetic association to the development of Alzheimer's and they continue to pioneer dementia research. However, there are still only three FDA-approved drugs that may temporarily relieve some symptoms of the disease. Clearly, more dedicated research should be encouraged.

Research and treatment provided through dementia-specific nursing homes will enhance the development of appropriate care options. To encourage such homes to be leased and constructed, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has urged the VA to establish a demonstration project for this purpose. I am pleased to support the VFW's Resolution 639 by offering this resolution today. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this effort.

**TRIBUTE TO RETIRING MAYOR OF  
CROCKER, MO, THE HONORABLE  
NORMA LEA MIHALEVICH**

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a remarkable public servant, the Honorable Norma Lea Mihalevich, Mayor of Crocker, MO, will retire from her post on April 7, 2001.

A graduate of Waynesville High School and the Missouri State Teachers College, Norma Lea Mihalevich has dedicated her life to public service. For the past 23 years, she has diligently served the citizens of Crocker, MO, as their mayor. During her tenure in office, she

has always unselfishly devoted her time and energy to the betterment of her community.

In addition to her service as mayor, Mrs. Mihalevich has been a member of the Crocker R-2 Board of Education, first being elected in 1952. During her time on the School Board, she served on the Board of Directors of the Missouri School Boards Association, receiving their 1998 "Recognition of Commitment" award. Additionally, in 1986, she was recognized as a "Pioneer in Education" by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Mrs. Mihalevich, a member of the Crocker Baptist Church for 59 years, has also worked for community betterment by serving as a member of the Pulaski County Hospital Board, the Pulaski County Health Department Home Health Agency, and the Pulaski Board for the Handicapped.

Norma Lea Mihalevich is truly a role model for young public servants. As she prepares for quieter times with her husband, Dr. John Mihalevich, I am certain that all Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Mrs. Mihalevich's outstanding commitment to public service.

**PRIME RECRUITING GROUND FOR  
ACADEMIES**

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for Navy peacoats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than any other district in the county. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above-average proportion of its sons and daughters to the Nation's military academies for decades.

This shouldn't come as a surprise. The educational excellence of our area is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830's, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve?

In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of the Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, one further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism that handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the

academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of nine local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area—many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication to seeing that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as is true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and to thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform their Representative of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In mid-December, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

Last year, the board interviewed over 30 applicants. Nominations included 10 to the Naval Academy, 7 to the Military Academy, 4 to the Air Force Academy, and 5 to the Merchant Marine Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the Congressional nomination process. The Board then forwards their recommendations to the academies by January 31, where recruiters review files and notify applicants and my office of their final decisions on admission.

It is both reassuring and rewarding to know that many of our military officers hail from our hometowns or close by. When we consider the role of these officers in peace or war, we can rest easier knowing that the best and brightest are in command. Wherever they are sent, be that Bosnia, Somalia, Haiti or the Persian Gulf, many of these officers have academy training.

And while a few people may question the motivations and ambitions of some young people, the academy review process shows that the large majority of our graduates are just as highly motivated as the guidance from loving parents, dedicated teachers and schools, and from trusted clergy and rabbis. Indeed, every time I visit a school, speak at a college, or meet a young academy nominee, I am constantly reminded that we as a nation are blessed with fine young men and women.

Their willingness and desire to serve their country is perhaps the most persuasive evidence of all.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2001, 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Christopher Hill, Pompton Plains, Pequannock H.S.; Tin T. Nguyen, Denville, Morris Knolls H.S.; Michael Raphael, Jr., Bridgewater, Bridgewater-Raritan; and Alexander T. Wong, Montville, Montville H.S.

MERCHANT MARINE

Joseph M. Crowley, Randolph, Randolph H.S.; Michael Frediani, Morris Plains, Parsippany H.S.; James J. Maye, IV, Bridgewater, Bridgewater-Raritan; Bradley W. Schmidt, Mine Hill, Dover H.S.; and Patrick H. Uhles, Montville, Montville H.S.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Lee W. Barnes, Mendham, West Morris Mendham; Robert J. Brougham, Randolph, Randolph H.S.; Paul P. Crooke, Long Valley, West Morris Central; Bethanne N. Laggy, Flanders, Pope John XXIII H.S.; David M. Marshall, Jr., Pompton Plains, Pequannock; Andrew G. Schmidt, Chester, West Morris Mendham; and William Wu, Morris Plains, Parsippany Hills H.S.

NAVAL ACADEMY

Andrew R. Bradley, Chester, West Morris Mendham; John J. Donnelly, III, Randolph, Delbarton School; Patrick M. Falvey, Randolph, Randolph H.S.; Thomas J. Kelly, Liberty Corner, Ridge H.S.; Jeremiah D. Lancaster, Lake Hopatcong, Jefferson H.S.; Ralph P. Lufkin, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.; Amy Swiatecki-McCabe, Chatham, Chatham H.S.; Adam R. Mueller, Bridgewater, Bridgewater-Raritan; Amanda M. Orson, Towaco, Montville H.S./The Citadel; and Grant M. Thompson, Livingston, Livingston H.S.

HONORING LANNA WALSH OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

**HON. SUSAN DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a California student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in our community. Lanna Walsh of San Diego has just been named one of California's top honorees in the 2001 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in the United States.

Lanna Walsh is being recognized for founding a tutoring and mentoring program that pairs high school students with elementary and middle school students through the county public library system. She is a senior at Patrick Henry High School.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contributions this young citizen is making. As a former director of a youth leadership program myself, I know what an incredible difference these programs make in our community. Volunteers like Lanna are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

I heartily applaud Lanna Walsh for making San Diego a better place to live, and for the

positive impact she is making on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

INTRODUCED LEGISLATION THAT WILL IMPROVE VETERAN'S HEALTHCARE

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill that will improve veterans healthcare.

I speak with veterans in the Second District of Tennessee on a regular basis, and I have heard time and time again of their frustration with scheduling an appointment at a Veterans Administration Clinic. Many times, people have to wait weeks and months just to see a doctor.

Mr. Speaker, this is not fair, and it is not right. Those who have laid their lives on the line for America deserve the utmost respect and assistance. They should not have to wait weeks and even months to be treated for a health problem.

When our Nation's veterans signed up to serve in the military, they were promised that they would be taken care of when they retired. We have a responsibility to live up to that promise, and to provide veterans with good healthcare.

Under this legislation, if a veteran tried to get a doctor's appointment at a Veterans' Clinic and had to wait longer than six months, the VA would be required to provide healthcare outside of the VA Clinics.

I am sure all veterans would agree that something needs to be done to improve their access to healthcare at Veterans' Clinics, and I am hopeful that this bill will be a step in the right direction.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and improve healthcare for the loyal and committed veterans of our Nation.

WOMT CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF BROADCASTING

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I want to salute and congratulate WOMT Radio in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, as it celebrates 75 years of community leadership and local broadcasting. This station has become a mainstay of the community and we have come to rely on WOMT to provide current, useful, and—perhaps most important—community-based programming. WOMT is relatively unique in the current broadcast world by maintaining its local control and focus. It prides itself on its ability to provide programming that centers on talk, news and local sports programs.

The station first went on the air back in 1926 and at the time was only the third radio

station in existence in the state of Wisconsin. Over its proud 75 year history, WOMT has had only three owners. In this era of broadcasting mega-mergers, WOMT has thrived under local ownership, providing the community not only news and information, but also shows featuring local on-air personalities that lakeshore residents have come to know well over the years. Throughout its long history, WOMT has proven that a radio station can be successful without compromising its goal of informing and educating its listeners.

WOMT has provided hours of listening pleasure to lakeshore residents over the years as we drive to work, pick up the kids from school, run our errands on the weekend, or tune in to catch a high school game. I again want to congratulate all the people at WOMT, including longtime owner Don Seehafer, for their dedication and commitment to making our lives a little more enjoyable. Congratulations, WOMT, on your first 75 years and we look forward to at least 75 more.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA ON JANUARY 26, 2001, AND SUPPORT FOR ONGOING AID EFFORTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest sympathy for the victims of the earthquake that recently struck the state of Gujarat in western India.

January 26th marked Republic Day for the Indian people. The celebration of the fifty-first anniversary of the ratification of the Indian constitution was overshadowed by an earthquake, which although it only lasted sixty seconds, took an incalculable toll on western India.

It measured 7.9 on the Richter Scale. An earthquake so forceful and deadly that tremors were felt throughout the country and an estimated 25,000 people were killed. Remarkably, rescuers continue to find survivors, and we are grateful for their work on behalf of the Indian people. The slow and arduous process of rebuilding both buildings and lives has begun. The aftershock of such a calamity will be felt for years to come.

It is therefore my hope that our government will provide the necessary and appropriate funds that may help alleviate the destruction caused by this catastrophe. So far, USAID has allotted nine million dollars for relief efforts. However, no amount of aid can ever compensate for the anguish and profound loss that has been experienced by the Indian people.

HONORING THE EFFORTS OF ONE ACCORD MINISTRY

**HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the efforts of a local community organization,

Of One Accord Ministry, making the lives of many people in the First Congressional District better.

This weekend, Of One Accord Ministry will hold a celebration dinner in honor of the many volunteers who offered their time and assistance to help those who were less fortunate. Last year, these efforts helped over 28,000 individuals in Hawkins and Hancock Counties.

The true heroes of this organization were over 200 volunteers from all walks of life such as young scouts, employees from local businesses and industries, members of civic clubs, local schools, and members of various churches. These individuals offered their services in collecting needed items, taking donations, delivering food and other items to needy families, serving a free medical clinic for those in need of basic medical attention, and many other tasks.

In the Congress, I have often advocated that the government cannot be the answer to all of the problems that exist in our society. We can do many things to help out those who need assistance, but real changes come about with the help of the local community, neighbors helping neighbors, one individual at a time. Local organizations like Of One Accord Ministry are our first line of defense against these social problems. Their efforts should be highlighted and commended for the results they have achieved.

Too often, we only hear and read about the negative news in our localities. Positive efforts such as those provided by local citizens often go unnoticed. I want to take this opportunity to recognize, congratulate, and bring to the attention of the Congress the great work that is being accomplished by the volunteers of Of One Accord Ministry. Tennesseans are long known for their selfless devotion, earning us the nickname the "Volunteer State." These volunteers carry on that tradition and are truly deserving of our thanks today.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to former Senator Alan Cranston of California who passed away over the holiday break. In a career spanning most of the 20th century, both as a private citizen and a Member of Congress, he developed a reputation as a tireless advocate of worthy causes from the environment to veterans health, and most notably arms control. His passing gives us pause to reflect on the legacy of one who fought hard his entire life for peace and democratic freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, Alan Cranston began his crusade for peace early in his life as a journalist. Born in Palo Alto, California in 1914, Cranston graduated from Stanford University in 1936 and he worked for the International News Service where he edited the first unaltered version of Mein Kampf, laying bare Hitler's racist beliefs, and inviting a lawsuit from the Fuehrer over copyright infringement. In 1939, Cranston continued his fight against racism as an advocate for the Common Council for

America Unity, an organization opposing discrimination against the foreign born.

Cranston's service to his country began during World War II, when he enlisted in the United States Army and became a private. Because of his verbal skills, he was assigned to lecture to soldiers on war aims. After the war, Cranston continued to advocate peace through his career in journalism.

Mr. Speaker, in 1968, he became a United States Senator from California. In the U.S. Senate, Alan Cranston's tireless advocacy for protecting the California desert and advocating the philosophy of arms control and arms reduction earned him the reputation of a "workhorse," and it is one he rightly deserves. And even after leaving the Senate at the age of 82, Alan Cranston continued until the time of his death to press for arms reduction by chairing two San Francisco-based think tanks—the Gorbachev Foundation USA and the Global Security Institute.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Alan Cranston worked long and hard for peace, and at his passing I join his many friends and admirers in paying tribute to his distinguished service, and it is my hope that we may carry on his work with equal strength and conviction.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8 on January 30–31, 2001 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MAKE TAX CREDITS WORK FIX ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX

#### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today badly needed legislation to make permanent the temporary provision of current law that allows all nonrefundable personal tax credits to be used against the alternative minimum tax. These credits include the child credit, the adoption credit, the HOPE credit, the lifelong learning credit, and the dependent child care credit.

I have introduced this bill in the two previous Congresses, H.R. 4489 and H.R. 1097. In 1998 Congress enacted a 1-year provision to solve the problem, and in 1999 Congress enacted a 3-year solution. Now is the time to permanently fix the problem, if only because the problem will get more serious and the revenue cost will increase every year we delay. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, a permanent solution to this problem enacted in 1999 would have cost \$6 billion over 2000–2004, and \$29.6 billion over 2000–2009. This rapid escalation in cost demonstrates why it is important to resolve the problem now. It also indicates how rapidly this provision will affect American families if it is not solved permanently.

To date, two messages have come out of the Bush administration on this issue. The first message is that the alternative minimum tax is a problem to be thought about. The second message is that Congress ought to fix it. Refusing to face this problem directly, and taking responsibility for helping resolve it, is a recipe for continued temporary solutions in an era where budget surpluses demand real tax solutions to real tax problems. I have offered twice to work with the administration on permanent solutions, and I continue to hope a permanent solution will be incorporated into its tax proposals.

Without these temporary solutions, current law would not allow personal tax credits to be used against the alternative minimum tax. Since taxpayers must pay the higher of their regular federal income tax, or the alternative minimum tax, many families find some or all of these credits disallowed by the AMT. In 1998 the Department of the Treasury estimated that over 800,000 families would have been denied the full amount of the child credit or the education credits, and that the number would increase annually.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, the estimated average time it takes to fill out the alternative minimum tax form was 5 hours and 39 minutes. It would, of course, take much longer for hundreds of thousands of taxpayers who may be forced to fill out this form for the first time as a result of the credits Congress offered them in the name of child care, adoption, and education. And I cannot think of anything that would produce greater cynicism on the part of the American people than not enacting a permanent solution to this problem.

Mr. Speaker, I have never thought of this issue as a partisan issue. I have worked with the former chairman of the Ways and Means Committee Mr. Archer, and with the chairman of the Oversight Subcommittee AMO Houghton, to bring this issue to the attention of Members of Congress, the administration, and the American people. I will continue to pursue all avenues during the 107th Congress to defuse this hidden time bomb permanently.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me simply say that the AMT presents additional challenges to Congress. The interaction of the AMT and the nonrefundable personal tax credits is only the most immediate, most crucial, problem. A second problem is that over the next decade the fact that the AMT is not adjusted for inflation while the regular federal income tax is adjusted, will push millions of families into the AMT and that should be dealt with as soon as possible. A third problem exists because the AMT will slash much of the tax relief that will be promised by President Bush this week, if it is not dealt with within the Bush proposals. I, and others, have proposed various solutions to these problems and I will continue to press for solutions to all the problems presented by the AMT. But the most immediate problem is that caused by the interaction of the AMT and nonrefundable credits, and that must be dealt with no matter what this year.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was present and voting on Wednesday, January

31. Although my votes on rollcall Nos. 6 and 8 were registered, I was not registered as having voted on rollcall No. 7—the India earthquake sympathy resolution. I intended to vote “yea” on this resolution.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE DISABLED WORKERS OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2001

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague, Representative MATSUI and several other colleagues to introduce the “Disabled Workers Opportunity Act.” This bill will remove a persistent employment barrier facing people with disabilities—the fear of losing their health insurance. It builds on the Work Incentives Improvement and Ticket to Work Act enacted last year. That law extended Medicare coverage for disabled, working beneficiaries who qualify for SSDI for eight and a half years. The legislation we are introducing today would make Medicare coverage permanent for these workers.

According to a recent survey commissioned by the National Organization on Disability, 79% of unemployed people with disabilities want to work. Yet, only one-third of them are actively working. Despite major advances in disability services and technologies, less than 1% of SSI/SSDI disability enrollees leave the rolls each year to return to work. In large part, this gap can be explained by the fact that SSI/SSDI disability beneficiaries risk losing health insurance coverage if they return to work—and many jobs lack the health benefits they require to maintain employment. Health insurance is vital for all workers, but for someone who is disabled, it can be a matter of life or death.

On December 17, 1999, the “Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act” was signed into law (P.L. 106–170). This important piece of legislation extended and improved healthcare and vocational rehabilitation opportunities for people with disabilities. Yet it does not go far enough in one fundamental respect. Instead of allowing disabled workers to permanently retain access to Medicare, people with disabilities who have worked a total of 8.5 years (whether consecutive or not) will still lose their Medicare benefits under existing law.

While 8.5 years may sound like a sufficient transition period, let’s not forget an important fact—managing a physical or mental disability is often a lifelong process. Someone with a spinal cord injury or a serious mental illness can face health challenges and vulnerabilities throughout their lives. The original version of the Work Incentives bill—as introduced in the House with bi-partisan support—recognized this fact and extended Medicare coverage permanently.

Our legislation would improve the Ticket-to-Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act by making Medicare Part A coverage permanent for disabled, working beneficiaries who qualify for SSDI. This small but critical fix will help remove an ongoing barrier facing disabled workers—the threat of losing healthcare coverage after returning to work. It is time to give our

disabled workers the opportunity to succeed by providing permanent Medical coverage. Enacting this legislation will allow the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act to live up to its name and really make it possible for those on SSDI to become permanent, active members of the workforce.

Last week, President Bush announced his “New Freedom Initiative” which shares the same goal as our disabled workers bill—to help people with disabilities becoming working members of our community. I look forward to working with President Bush and my Congressional colleagues to pass this small, but important piece of legislation that would make a real difference in the lives of those people on SSDI who are able and willing to remain in our workforce. I submit the following co-sponsor listing as well as a letter from the Consortium for “Citizens With Disabilities” into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The full list of original co-sponsors is as follows:

1. Mr. Stark.
2. Mr. Matsui.
3. Ms. Morella.
4. Mr. Rangel.
5. Mr. Lewis of Georgia.
6. Mr. Cardin.
7. Mr. Coyne.
8. Mr. Doggett.
9. Ms. Thurman.
10. Mr. Jefferson.
11. Mr. McNulty.
12. Mr. Waxman.
13. Mr. Bonior.
14. Mr. Kucinich.
15. Mr. Frost.
16. Mr. Murtha.
17. Mr. Holden.
18. Mr. Frank.
19. Mr. Kildee.
20. Mr. Hilliard.
21. Ms. McCarthy of Missouri.
22. Mr. Berman.
23. Mr. Allen.
24. Mr. Hinchey.
25. Mr. Baird.
26. Mr. Green.
27. Ms. Christensen.
28. Mr. Lantos.
29. Mr. George Miller of California.
30. Ms. Baldwin.
31. Mr. Abercrombie.
32. Mr. McDermott.
33. Mr. Rush.

A letter of support from the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities follows:

CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES,  
*February 5, 2001.*

Hon. PETE STARK,  
*Cannon House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN STARK, The undersigned members of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Work Incentives and Social Security Task Forces are pleased to support your legislation that allows for Social Security Disability beneficiaries who go back to work to permanently retain their Medicare coverage.

As you know, the lack of quality affordable health care is one of the largest barriers facing disabled beneficiaries who want to work. Witnesses with disabilities have testified before the House Ways and Means and Commerce Committees and the Senate Finance Committee that the loss of healthcare or the inability to afford healthcare because of lim-

ited incomes prevents them from working. In addition, we know that this fear keeps people on the rolls who might try to go back to work simply because they might lose their healthcare coverage. This is wrong and it must be changed.

Congress and the President went to great lengths to remedy this problem with P.L. 106–170, The Ticket-to-Work & Work Incentives Improvement Act. This law improves access to rehabilitation services, eliminates many disincentives to work with SSA, and extends Medicaid and Medicare coverage for those who work.

Unfortunately, during last minute consideration of the bill, a limit was imposed on the Medicare coverage despite the fact that 249 members of the House and 79 Senators co-sponsored legislation that provided permanent coverage under Medicare.

We believe that this limit must be lifted so that beneficiaries can work without the fear that one day they will be left with the choice of either working without coverage or being forced back onto the disability rolls. That’s not fair and it’s not right. We urge Congress to support and pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

American Association on Mental Retardation.

American Association of University Affiliated Programs.

American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services.

American Council of the Blind.

American Network of Community Options and Resources.

Association for Persons in Supported Employment.

Brain Injury Association.

Inter-National Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation.

International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils.

National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems.

National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare.

National Down Syndrome Congress.

National Mental Health Association.

National Organization of Social Security Claimants’ Representatives.

NISH.

Paralyzed Veterans of America.

The Arc of the United States.

United Cerebral Palsy.

## TRIBUTE TO BILL AND CLAUDIA COLEMAN

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor Bill and Claudia Coleman for donating the largest gift ever given an American public university—\$250 million—to the University of Colorado to be used to fund advanced research and development of innovative technologies to enhance the lives of people with cognitive disabilities.

Today, approximately 20 million persons, or 7 percent of the U.S. population experience significant cognitive disabilities, such as mental retardation, autism, severe and persistent mental illness, traumatic brain injury, stroke, and Alzheimer’s disease.

Based on the Coleman’s generous donation, the University of Colorado will establish the

Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. The Institute will focus on education, research, and the development of new technology and software programs to improve the quality of life for the cognitively disabled.

The Coleman Institute at the University of Colorado, which will include all four campuses of the University, will help bring together many areas of engineering, medical and biomedical, clinical and brain research necessary to make a significant advance in understanding cognitive disabilities and developing future generations of assistive technology devices.

I commend University of Colorado President Elizabeth Hoffman for her vision in making the Coleman Institute the international center of excellence in developing adaptive assistive technologies, based on advanced biomedical and computer science research, for people with cognitive disabilities.

This unprecedented gift is a tribute to the Colemans' generosity and vision, as well as to the University's growing reputation for work in developmental disabilities and assistive technology.

I am proud to represent the University of Colorado's Boulder campus, and I look forward to aiding the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities in realizing Bill and Claudia Coleman's worthy goal.

#### HONORING THE 2001 BEA CHRISTY AWARD NOMINEES

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2001 Bea Christy Award Nominees, who will be honored Friday, February 9, 2001 in Lansing, Michigan for their contributions to improve their communities and neighborhoods.

Bea Christy was a dedicated member of the Eastside Neighborhood Organization for more than ten years until her death. She also worked with other organizations to make the neighborhood and community a better place to live. She was the kind of individual who volunteered to do the "unglamorous" tasks, who worked quietly and diligently behind the scenes, who never sought recognition for her efforts.

First, she was a good neighbor in her immediate neighborhood, welcoming new people, planting flowers in the church yard across the street from her house, taking elderly folks to the doctor, and noticing where the sidewalk needed repairs. She also helped edit and deliver the Eastside Neighborhood Organization newspaper, made soup for the annual fundraiser, and helped plant flowers in the bed on Michigan Avenue.

Bea was also an active member of her church, volunteered with Radio Talking Book, as well as helped to initiate the Lansing area CROP Walk. She made these contributions in addition to being a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

It is quiet, committed, unsung people like Bea who make neighborhood organizations successful, and the community as a whole a better place to live. It is in this spirit that individuals are nominated for an annual award exemplifying the qualities of Bea Christy. The fol-

lowing six criteria must be considered when making a nomination for the Bea Christy Award: variety of activities in your neighborhood organization; unsung nature of contributions; overall good neighbor; reliability; willingness to take on tasks; and, other service to the community.

Friday night, ten deserving individuals will be recognized as 2001 Bea Christy Award Nominees. I salute the following nominees for their outstanding service to their communities and neighborhoods: Dr. Calvin C. Anderson, Northwest Neighborhood Alliance; Chris Bobier, Potter/Walsh Neighborhood Association; Linda Hartman, River Forest Neighborhood Association; Chad Hutchison, Downtown Neighborhood Association; Denise Kelley, Association for the Bingham Community; Rick Kibbey, Eastside Neighborhood Organization; Antonia Miernik, Genesee Neighborhood Association; Kathy Rogers, Old Forest Neighborhood Association; Leonard Earl Salisbury, Hosmer Neighborhood Organization; and Jane Sawyers, Neighbors United in Action.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HOUSING PRESERVATION MATCHING GRANT ACT OF 2001

#### HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Housing Preservation Matching Grant Act of 2001 previously championed by our esteemed colleague, the late Representative Bruce Vento.

With the recent rise in real estate prices, many owners of HUD-assisted and insured projects are finding it more lucrative to repay their mortgages and operate their buildings in the private market. The tendency to opt-out of Section 8 contracts is placing hundreds of thousands of affordable housing units at risk. According to the National Housing Trust, there are over half a million Section 8 apartments in all 50 states that are below market and in danger of losing affordability. We simply cannot allow this vital housing stock to evaporate.

The Housing Preservation Matching Grant Act would provide assistance to states for operating costs, capital expenditures, debt restructuring, and acquisition of projects with HUD-insured mortgages, Section 8 contracts, and resident ownership. This project-based assistance is a necessary complement to tenant-based approaches by preserving the units that accept vouchers, and ensuring that low-income families have a safe and affordable place to live. Federal matching grants would also give states a much needed incentive to either continue or create innovative programs to preserve their housing resources.

Before we can create new affordable housing we must preserve the resources we already have, and stop the rising tide of low-income rents to the private market. This legislation achieves both these goals, and hopefully will entice states to appropriate more money for public housing programs knowing that the federal government will provide a substantial share of the cost. By setting up a mechanism for federal and state partnership, this legislation fosters cooperation and coordination between all those responsible for administering and maintaining housing programs.

Mr. Speaker, the Housing Preservation Matching Grant Act of 2001 is an important part of any broader strategy to save affordable housing, and I ask all my colleagues to support it.

#### THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

#### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this month is the 57th anniversary of one of the most heart touching incidents of World War II, the coverage of the four chaplains.

We are fortunate in that we are living in an era when the sacrifices of what is now called "The Greatest Generation" are finally being fully appreciated. The release of recent films and books, the groundbreaking last Veterans Day for the official World War Two Memorial, and other historic events, are underscoring for younger generations the magnitude of the commitment of all the American people to their task at hand in World War Two.

However, of the countless incidents of heroism during that conflict, none have the emotional impact or the relevance to today's society as the story of the four chaplains.

It is now 57 years since that fateful night of February 3, 1943, when four brave chaplains—George I. Fox and Clark V. Poling, Protestant ministers; Alexander D. Goode, a Rabbi; and John P. Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest—laid down their lives aboard the U.S.S. *Dorchester* so that others might live on.

The *Dorchester*, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen, and civilian workers, was traveling across the North Atlantic, towards a U.S. Army base on the coast of Greenland, when it was attacked by a German U-boat. The German submarine fired a series of torpedoes toward the *Dorchester*, which struck the transport ship well below the water line, and injuring her beyond repair.

As water began to flood in through the ship's battered hull, chaos set in aboard the *Dorchester*, and it was into the ensuing scene of utter hopelessness and despair that the Chaplains' legacy was woven.

When it was discovered that the supply of life jackets aboard the *Dorchester* was insufficient, the Chaplains—without hesitation—removed their own, and offered them to four frightened young men.

The Chaplains then stayed with those injured by the initial blast as the ship slanted towards the icy water, and were last seen clutching hands together, offering prayers for those around them.

The qualities which the Chaplains embodied—self sacrifice, unity, faith, and respect for each other's creeds—are the qualities upon which our nation rests, and which, at the dawn of the new millennium, are relevant for us today more than ever. It is for this reason that the Four Chaplains deserve our respect and our honor as true American heroes.

As we pay homage to the Four Chaplains today and throughout this month, let us reflect for a moment upon the attributes which defined their actions, and forget not those four heroic men. The uniquely American brand of

heroism which they represented and the countless other men and women who gave their lives in the name of our country must not be forgotten.

Nathaniel Hawthorne once wrote: "A hero cannot be a hero unless in a heroic world." Accordingly, it is fitting to note that the Four Chaplains' sacrifice came in the midst of a conflict which called upon all Americans to make sacrifices in order to guarantee the preservation of our way of life and to eradicate tyranny from the world.

In my Congressional District, many veterans and patriotic organizations paid tribute to the Four Chaplains this month with appropriate ceremonies.

Mr. Speaker I invite our colleagues to join in commemorating these courageous remarkable American heroes . . . The *Dorchester's* Four Chaplains.

#### GLOBAL GAG RULE

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on his second day in office—also the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*—President Bush acted to reimpose the "global gag rule," a policy begun in the Reagan years to restrict international family planning assistance. I am seriously concerned about what this step will mean for the more than 150 million women worldwide who currently want access to family planning resources. I am concerned as well that President Bush's action might be only the first step in a longer-term effort to chip away at women's reproductive rights.

Not only would the reimposition of the "global gag rule," keep women's rights advocates around the world from working to prevent the suffering that results from unsafe abortions, but such restrictions would also prohibit international family planning organizations from spending their own, non-U.S.-funds to provide legal abortion services or to advocate for changes in abortion laws in their own countries.

In explaining this step, President Bush stated that he did not want taxpayer dollars to be spent to perform or promote abortions overseas. This is a misrepresentation of the nature of international family planning funding. Currently, no U.S. funds are spent to perform or promote abortions overseas, nor can they be under current U.S. law.

President Bush also stated that he hoped the reimposition of restrictions would help make abortions more rare. But when the policy was previously in effect, it didn't achieve this stated goal. Instead, according to the Center for Reproductive Law and Politics, it reduced access to health care and caused more unintended pregnancies and more abortions.

Anti-abortion activists remain adamantly opposed to using U.S. aid for international family planning programs. Yet as the *Denver Post* points out, an investment in these programs is important "not only to save women from horrible deaths, but also to quell the population explosion in impoverished nations. . . . Using tax dollars to prevent unwanted pregnancies is far more cost-effective than spending huge

sums to feed starving populations who remain unenlightened about family planning."

Mr. Speaker, I agree, and for the benefit of our colleagues, I am submitting for inclusion in the RECORD the full editorial from the *Denver Post*, another editorial from the *Boulder Daily Camera*, and a letter to the *Denver Post* in opposition to the "global gag rule" written by former Colorado first lady Dottie Lamm, who also served as a delegate to the UN Conference of Population and Development in 1994.

[From the *Denver Post*, Jan. 24, 2001]

#### GLOBAL GAG RULE BACKFIRES

Nobody likes abortions—not the women who have them nor the activists who believe in a woman's right to choose.

Yet the most adamant anti-abortion activists were rejoicing Monday when President Bush instituted a ban that likely will spur even more abortions in Third World countries.

Bush banned federal aid from international organizations that perform or "actively promote" abortion as a family planning method.

Yet those are the same groups that promote birth control so women can avoid abortions. And because illegal abortions are rampant in Third World countries, those organizations cannot eliminate abortion discussions from their services.

Such groups must be able to counsel women who are seeking illegal abortions. Without such counsel, many women die during illegal abortions—and many don't learn about family planning methods that can make abortion unnecessary.

The only way to stem the high rate of abortions in such countries is to make family planning readily available. But when the U.S. strips money from family planning groups, it also strips hope that Third World women will have access to birth control.

So Bush's action, while oddly satisfying to anti-abortion forces, ironically guarantees that abortions will continue to increase.

Opponents denounced it as an "international gag rule" on discussion of abortions, a move that would be unconstitutional if imposed in the United States.

Yet some anti-abortion activists even question why the U.S. should provide any family planning to foreign countries. "I'm not sure it's an effective use of our tax dollars . . ." said Chuck Gosnell, president of the Colorado Christian Coalition.

The *Post*, however, has historically upheld the need to support worldwide family planning—not only to save women from horrible deaths, but also to quell the population explosion in impoverished nations.

Using tax dollars to prevent unwanted pregnancies is far more cost-effective than spending huge sums to feed starving populations who remain unenlightened about family planning.

We deeply regret Bush's action Monday, and we urge the administration to reconsider the ultimate effects of such a ban.

[From the *Daily Camera*, Jan. 25, 2001]

#### Bush the Divider

During his campaign, President George W. Bush sought to keep the hot-button issue of abortion off the radar screens of both the media and the voters.

When pressed, he pointed to his long, strong anti-abortion record. But often he tempered that message by saying "good people can disagree" on the issue—as well he might, given his wife Laura's recent remarks in favor of keeping abortion legal, and his mother's similar sentiments. He also suggested he might be a moderate on the issue

when he said repeatedly that many hearts and minds would have to be changed before the nation was ready to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that made access to abortion a constitutional right.

Following the disputed election—in which pro-choice Al Gore won the popular vote by more than a half million votes—many abortion-rights supporters hoped that Bush's lack of a mandate would keep his anti-abortion instincts in check.

Some of those same optimists even crossed their fingers and hoped that John Ashcroft, Bush's profoundly anti-abortion nominee for Attorney General, was telling the truth when he said his personal views would not affect his enforcement of abortion-related laws, from clinic access to *Roe v. Wade* itself. Ashcroft went so far as to declare that he considers the landmark case "the settled law of the land."

Such hopes surely were dashed Monday—Bush's second full day in office—when he marked the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* by reinstating the "global gag rule," which prevents overseas family planning organizations that receive U.S. aid from even discussing abortion or lobbying for legalized abortion in their countries.

Using U.S. funds to pay for actual abortions, or even to promote abortion, already is prohibited under the annually-renewed Helms Amendment, adopted in 1973. This "gag rule" was tied on by President Reagan in 1984 and maintained by President George H.W. Bush. It was overturned in the opening days of President Clinton's first term.

Bush's reinstatement is mostly a symbolic bone thrown to his anti-abortion supporters, since statistics show the gag rule hasn't reduced abortions in the past. But forcing family planning agencies to choose between desperately-needed dollars and providing full and accurate information means that many women will go without any care at all.

Bush also took pains to issue encouraging words (albeit through a proxy) to an anti-abortion protest in the capital Monday: ". . . you are gathered to remind our country that one of those ideals is the infinite value of every life."

And, to complete a Monday trifecta, Bush's chief of staff Andrew Card told reporters that the new administration is "reviewing" the recent Food and Drug Administration approval of the abortion pill, RU-486.

And so, despite recent public opinion polls that show about 60 percent of Americans believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases, despite hopeful predictions that he would hew to a moderate line in the wake of his tenuous election victory, Bush the self-declared "uniter" has thrown down the abortion gauntlet from the outset.

Some political analysts have suggested he may be trying to fatten his supporters on the socially-conservative right with treats right now so they'll still be sated later on in the banquet, when the time comes to reach compromise with hungry Democrats.

That may be. But surely Bush could have chosen a less contentious issue to mollify his conservative base. By rushing in to demonstrate his allegiance to those who would impose their beliefs on the nation and ban abortion, he has demonstrated in his first week that he missed some important lessons of his sketchy victory.

[From the *Denver Post*, Jan. 24, 2001]

#### GAG RULE DECRIED

Re: "Abortion opponents jubilant," Jan. 23 news story.

President Bush's re-instatement of the gag rule on international family planning aid is



the worst example of "compassionate conservatism" possible.

As Sylvia Clark, a life-long Republican and president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, said Monday:

"In short, the U.S. government will be telling the desperately poor women of the developing world, 'Don't you dare ask about abortion options, because if you do, you will lose access to the family planning that could prevent you from ever needing an abortion in the first place.'"

Some history here: From 1984-1993 Ronald Reagan's "Mexico City Policy" prohibited recipients of international family planning assistance from providing abortion services or offering medical advice to women dealing with an unintended pregnancy.

President Clinton rescinded that policy in early 1993.

Right now, nearly two out of every five pregnancies worldwide are still unintended. Early and frequent pregnancy contributes significantly to the deaths of infants, children and women in developing countries, where a woman dies literally every minute in childbirth or because of complications of pregnancy.

But, when contraceptive prevalence rates rise, rates of unintended pregnancies, maternal deaths and abortion go down.

Restrictions on international family planning assistance will do nothing to stop abortion. In fact they will increase the number of times desperate women turn to abortion as a means to control family size.

Instead of reinstating the gag rule, Bush should have made good on his original promise stated to The New York Times "to find common ground and reduce the number of abortions that happen."

Yet, President Bush's gag rule policies will promote exactly the opposite. It will increase the number of abortions that happen. For shame, Mr. President!

DOTTIE LAMM,  
Denver.

#### ARIEL SHARON'S COMMENT

#### HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, how dare Ariel Sharon comment about Condoleezza Rice's legs. I wonder what his legs look like. And let me go on to say how "unsexy" some people might think he looks. But they don't say it out loud! Probably they would be too busy thinking about that and unable to keep their mind on their work.

Why would he say such a thing out loud?

But does that have anything to do with his effectiveness as an Israeli leader? No.

Neither his legs nor his sexiness has anything to do with whether he will stand for peace, make war, or whether he is competent to do the job for which he has been chosen.

Likewise, Dr. Rice's looks have nothing to do with her effectiveness as a leader or as National Security Advisor to President Bush.

The press seems to think this episode is cute.

But it's an insult for all the women out there who go to school, study hard, then work long hours to break the glass ceiling. The last thing we need is for some boorish man who can control neither his libido nor his tongue to come on publicly to women he finds attractive.

I think Mr. Sharon owes all women, especially working women, an apology.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my sympathies to the family of the late Senator Alan Cranston. Senator Cranston passed away on New Year's eve, 2000.

Born in California, Senator Cranston honored our Golden State for many years with his service to community and country, serving for eight years as State Controller of California, and in the United States Senate for twenty-four years.

Senator Cranston will be remembered for his fight for human rights in the world. He will be remembered for his mastery of the issues, his hard work, plain spoken manner, and humility.

He fought against fascism and Nazism, alerting people to the threat of Hitler, by exposing the virulent nature of Hitler's writings. This act of courage helped to show the world the importance of fighting this menace to freedom and democracy. Many years later he fought with the same level of conviction against apartheid in South Africa, helping to end that unjust system through economic sanctions by the United States.

He fought to protect federal employees against job discrimination, worked for opportunities for women in the workforce, and strove to end discrimination against pregnant employees.

He championed legislation to expand the family planning program, and he helped lead the fight for the proposed equal rights amendment.

Senator Cranston was always eloquent, honorable, tenacious in his causes, respected even by those who did not share his position on the issues. He was gentlemen in the best sense of the word, a scholar, a thinker, a doer, and a leader. He will be missed.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

#### HON. ADAM SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of the late Senator Alan Cranston. Growing up in California, I developed a strong admiration for the life and work of this great leader. As a young man living in Northern California and attending Stanford University, I came to view Senator Cranston as a model for our time and an inspiration to young people everywhere. He served a legendary four terms in the United States Senate and made history by being the only U.S. Senator ever to have been elected his Party's Whip seven times. His vibrant intellect, persuasive skill, and even-handed approach were recognized by leaders here and abroad, and Senator Cranston came to be seen as guiding hand in shaping many of the important legislative measures that came up for consideration during his 24 years on Capitol Hill. His devotion to the causes he cared about and his ex-

pertise on both domestic policy and international relations made him one of the most talented and well-respected public servants of this century.

The people of California will be forever grateful for the many accomplishments of Senator Alan Cranston. He was a tireless advocate for his constituents, while always being mindful of the needs of the entire nation. His efforts to provide affordable housing, protect our environment, secure a woman's right to choose, and advocate for the disabled paved the way for groundbreaking legislation that transformed domestic policy in the United States. But what Senator Cranston is best known for is his lifelong commitment to world peace and his conscientious objection to nuclear weapons. He played a pivotal role in developing arms reduction and nuclear arms control treaties and traveled the world, building relationships with foreign leaders and promoting peace. Senator Cranston will always be remembered for his many contributions to the global community, and I am proud to rise today in celebration of his life of service to the state of California, this nation, and our world.

#### WELL WISHES TO HON. BUD SHUSTER ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to one of our colleagues, Congressman BUD SHUSTER who is retiring this year after 28 years of service in the House of Representatives.

BUD SHUSTER has served his constituents well in his time in Congress. He has worked hard to improve the economic health of Pennsylvania's 9th Congressional District, and he has been successful in securing federal infrastructure funding for Pennsylvania's 9th District, which is located in the rugged terrain of the Allegheny Mountains. He has also honestly and accurately reflected his constituents' views in his many votes in the House of Representatives.

Congressman SHUSTER has also worked tirelessly and in a bipartisan fashion as a leader of Pennsylvania's Congressional delegation to address problems facing the Commonwealth. The collegiality that has marked the Pennsylvania delegation's cooperative efforts has stood out as a refreshing contrast to the bitter partisanship that has often divided the House in recent years, and BUD SHUSTER, as one of the senior members of the delegation, has had a significant role in setting and maintaining that tone. I have always appreciated the courtesy and attention that he has displayed to his delegation colleagues—which, I want to emphasize, took no notice of party affiliation.

Congressman SHUSTER's most important legacy will undoubtedly be the leadership that he provided on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Congressman SHUSTER has long recognized the importance of government-provided infrastructure in promoting economic growth in this country. He has led a highly successful fight to provide

greater resources for investments in our nation's highways, bridges, mass transit, and aviation system. He was actively involved with Chairman Robert Roe in crafting the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991, which increased federal funding for surface transportation infrastructure. As chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Congressman SHUSTER was the driving force behind the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) and the Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21). America will benefit from Congressman SHUSTER's legislative initiatives for decades to come.

I want to wish Congressman SHUSTER well on the occasion of his retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO LATE SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

##### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to one of California's finest and most respected Senators, the late Alan Cranston.

Alan Cranston was born in Palo Alto, California, on June 19, 1914. He studied at the University of Mexico and then continued at Stanford University. While he began his professional career as a news correspondent, the international events of that time led him to join the United States Army. At the conclusion of the Second World War, he left the Army to become President of the United World Federalists. This, along with his founding of the California Democratic Council, propelled him into the political spotlight. Other positions he held during his tenure at the Senate include Chairman of the Committee on Veteran Affairs, Chairman of the Gorbachev Foundation, President of the United States: Kyrgyz Business Council, and Senior International Advisor for Schooner Capitol Corporation.

Those who know him and worked with him remember his modesty and true commitment towards making the world a safer one. Senator Cranston was honored with numerous awards for outstanding achievements in the field of world security, and for his efforts towards global peace. During his 24-year Senate career, Senator Cranston had a hand in developing and promoting some of the most influential legislative measures considered by Congress. His efforts to end the Vietnam War and to improve relations with the Soviet Union go unmatched. In addition, he helped shape the Senate opinion of the SALT II and START treaties.

After leaving public office, Alan Cranston continued his fight to abolish nuclear weapons. He founded and acted as President of the Global Security Institute, enabling citizens to express their concerns about security issues. His expertise was frequently sought in treaty negotiation and nuclear arms control, and he published many works on these issues.

Mr. Speaker, Alan Cranston did not seek attention for himself nor demanded honor, but he deserved it. He honored all living beings by serving to promote peace and prevent destruction. Please join me in remembering the

respectable and truly remarkable man, Sen. Alan Cranston. I end with a quote that Senator Cranston carried in his wallet for years:

A leader is best when people barely know he exists, less good when they obey and acclaim him, worse when they fear and despise him. Fail to honor people and they fail to honor you. But of a good leader, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will all say, "We did this ourselves."

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

##### HON. MIKE HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of a great American, Senator Alan Cranston. While Senator Cranston left the Congress 8 years ago, after four terms in the Senate, his legacy remains as strong as ever because of the depth of his convictions and the significance of his accomplishments.

Senator Cranston was one of only two California senators to be elected to the Senate four times and he served 14 years as the Democratic Whip. His accomplishments bear great weight. During his service in the United States Senate, Alan Cranston had a hand in many major pieces of legislation. He was deeply involved with arms reduction and nuclear arms control and led the debate on SALT II and START treaties, worked on ratification of the Panama Canal treaty, helped to expand trade for California technological and agricultural products, and reduced military spending.

Senator Cranston also fought tirelessly to build affordable, adequate housing for our families and to protect our national environment for present and future generations. The Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, was a major housing bill he helped pass. He also authored legislation that created three major national parks and expanded two others, seven park wilderness areas and 51 forest areas and he was the original author of the California Desert Protection Act.

Senator Cranston's record of accomplishment in public service spanned 10 Presidents and 6 decades, and his thoughtful approach to making policy impacted the everyday lives of many Americans. He helped formulate legislation to get more highway money available for mass transit, which reduced our dependence on oil and helped to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion. A champion of civil liberty and individual rights, Senator Cranston authored the freedom of choice bill that enacted Roe vs. Wade into law and created and fought for a "Bill of Rights" for the disabled.

Senator Cranston's dedication to public service has inspired generations of Californians and Americans to get involved in public service. His integrity and dedication influenced my commitment to fight for social justice and my decision to run for public office. Senator Cranston's life ended on the night of December 31st 2000—at the conclusion of the 20th century. While tragic, this is truly fitting, as it is due in no small part to the work of Alan Cranston that 20th century will always be known as the American Century.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ALAN CRANSTON

##### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Alan Cranston, a man who walked among us as world leader, candidate for President, Senator, public servant, businessman, writer, reporter, public speaker, athlete, and artist—a true Renaissance man. He had a passion for civil rights, freedom of the press, nuclear disarmament and environmental causes. He worked selflessly to try to make the planet a better place for us all.

I was honored to know Senator Cranston personally and fortunate to benefit from his advice when I was first elected to Congress.

We celebrate today his noteworthy efforts on the international level for world peace, especially helping to end the Vietnam War and to improve our relations with the Soviet Union. He was a leader in Senate consideration of the SALT I and SALT II treaties, Middle East peace, and reduced military spending. In 1996, he entered private-sector work on nuclear disarmament, as Chairman of the Gorbachev/USA Foundation and later founding the Global Security Institute, both San Francisco-based think tanks.

Senator Cranston authored bills to create three major national parks and to expand two others, seven park wilderness areas and 51 forest areas. He was the original author of the California Desert Protection Act, finally enacted in 1993.

He was the second-longest serving U.S. Senator from California—and was Democratic whip seven times and Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

His work in the Senate included not only the international peace and environmental efforts already mentioned, but he was in the forefront in the fight for affordable housing, mass transit to combat air pollution and traffic congestion, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, choice and women's rights, veterans' rights and medical care, education, civil rights and civil liberties, immigration reform, and the prevention of drug abuse and crime.

He was a Stanford University graduate, an early San Francisco home builder, a foreign correspondent for International News Service (now part of the United Press International), and an author of "The Killing of the Peace" which the New York Times rated one of the 10 best books of 1945. This book was written about the Senate's decision in 1919 to keep the United States out of the League of Nations, in an effort to help the United Nations avoid a similar fate.

He was also athletically gifted. He was a world-class quarter-miler in the mid-1930s and resumed his sprinting at the age of 55. In 1984, as one of eight Democrats running for President, he could be found sprinting barefoot through the hotel hallways.

He credited his participation in track with teaching him the need to focus. He said he could have been in the Olympic Games in 1936 and was good enough but didn't quite make it because he did not concentrate enough. That taught him a lesson that stayed with him throughout his life: success requires discipline and focus.

His artistic bent was evident by the three of his oils that hung in his Senate office.

When praising someone of such wide and varied interests and talents, the tributes often end up listing accomplishment after accomplishment. And, as impressive as that may be, such tributes often miss the soul of the man. The life of Alan Cranston presents us with these goals. To put the good of country and of the people of our nation first. To work tirelessly for the causes we believe are important. To understand that, working together, we really can change the world! We will miss him deeply, but we pledge to remember his dedication and to carry on his work.

IN MEMORY OF SENATOR ALAN  
CRANSTON

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, earlier today several of my colleagues gathered in the Senate to pay tribute and celebrate the life of former Senator Alan Cranston. Like my colleagues, I marvel at the passion and commitment Senator Cranston brought to the issues he cared about during his 86 years.

Senator Cranston's wide-ranging life experiences gave him an incredible insight on some of the most important events in the 20th century. We are fortunate that he shared his experiences and perspective with us as a journalist and an author, most notably with his 1946 book, *Killing the Peace*, which was an account of the Senate's failure to join the League of Nations. The Senator's distinguished career also included time as president of the World Federalists, comptroller of California, and as a leading figure in reforming the California Democratic party. His contributions will always be remembered in these fields by those who worked with him and benefitted from his work.

However, I am most thankful for his commitment and leadership on issues of peace and nuclear disarmament. As many of my colleagues know, Senator Cranston and I share a common perspective and commitment to these issues. His leadership on disarmament and the abolition of nuclear weapons is truly admirable. After leaving the Senate in 1993, Senator Cranston continued his push for nuclear arms reductions. He launched a much-needed effort at the 1995 State of the World Forum to abolish nuclear weapons worldwide through educating U.S. citizens and world leaders. Senator Cranston took his message and crusade far and wide, including to former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev. Locally, my congressional district—home to many caring and dedicated peace and environmental groups—was fortunate enough 2 years ago to have Senator Cranston join us for an event highlighting the need to abolish nuclear weapons. Once again, he reminded us all that while nuclear weapons will not be eliminated overnight, the United States must be a leader and take the first steps toward elimination of these weapons. As the founder of the Global Security Institute, he was able to forge ahead with this dream of abolishing nuclear weapons.

With his passing, the peace and nuclear disarmament community certainly lost a true

friend and leading voice. On behalf of the thousands of citizen groups that will continue to campaign for the elimination of nuclear weapons, I thank him for his ground breaking work in this arena. And, everyone should know, we will continue in this shared quest to make the world safe from the dangers of nuclear weapons.

TRIBUTE TO LATE SENATOR ALAN  
CRANSTON

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to join my colleagues in paying my respects to one of California's longtime, dedicated public servants, the late Senator Alan Cranston, who passed away last New Year's Eve.

Alan Cranston's career of public service spanned almost half of the 20th century. He was first elected State controller of California in 1958, and was sent to the Senate by California voters in 1968. He served there through 1993. Throughout his career, Cranston dedicated himself to a range of important causes—seeking to strengthen federal environmental laws, to expand assistance to the disadvantaged in society and to bolster civil rights. His commitment to arms control led him to work closely with President Reagan for the Intermediate Range Nuclear Force Treaty, even though the two agreed on little else. Senator Cranston was also respected for his advocacy of the interests of his State—for farmers, film makers, aerospace companies, financial institutions and independent oil producers.

Throughout his career and throughout his life, Alan Cranston distinguished himself with his hard work, his tenacity and his self-discipline. He was an Olympic-class runner who kept himself in shape through the end of his life. He took the time to make himself an expert in whatever issue he was working on. Whether it was arms control, housing, or the views and concerns of his Senate colleagues, Alan Cranston took the time to master the subject. It was this discipline that made him an extremely effective party-builder, coalition builder, advocate and legislator. That dedication and that commitment deserve our respect.

DEATH OF FORMER MAYOR JOHN  
V. LINDSAY

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, throughout the neighborhoods of New York, millions mourn the death of former Mayor John Lindsay. He is still remembered as the great patron of community empowerment who provided the opportunity for the people on the bottom to enter the mainstream of New York politics as well as civil service and government employment.

John Lindsay was a highly visible and articulate idealist and advocate for greater inclusion of minorities in the American dream. Although his direct impact on policy and practice never moved beyond New York City, he belongs in the category with Robert and John Kennedy and Franklin Roosevelt.

Assuming great political risks, Lindsay was one of the few leaders in the nation who seriously adopted Lyndon Johnson's "Maximum feasible participation of the poor" policy. His administration made a Herculean effort to institutionalize power-sharing down to the local level. Instead of siphoning off dollars and resources from federal programs like the Community Action Program and the Model Cities initiative, Lindsay added city support and thus increased his own tax and budget burdens.

With ignorance and incompetence, the people on the bottom sometimes betrayed their mayoral advocate; however, it was the lack of vision and the resistance within the ranks of the city's organized machine Democrats which blocked the realization of a new progressive base for the governing of New York City. Unfortunately, Lindsay never sought to build a movement or even his own partisan machine. But as a solo force, a lone Achilles of New York politics, he left a lasting legacy of new leadership within the poor and minority communities.

After serving as a commissioner appointed by John Lindsay, I was elected to the New York State Senate in 1974. When I entered the legislature for the first time, I noted that every minority member of the legislature had previously been in some way supported by the Community Action Program or the Model Cities Program, both empowerment vehicles sponsored by John V. Lindsay.

New York City mourns a great visionary leader and champion of the poor and powerless.

THE LINDSAY TRUMPET STILL SOUNDS

For the Great John Lindsay  
The grave is not a period,  
But a colon:  
The good comes  
Flowing endlessly afterwards  
In offspring never seen,  
Achievements never footnoted.  
John Lindsay's trumpet sounds  
In the heads  
Of unknown urban soldiers;  
The posterity of the powerless  
Now hear the beat of new drums;  
The smothering of grassroots fervor  
Is now a gasping scheme;  
Heroes from the neighborhoods  
May still match the Lindsay dream.  
A Socrates for empowerment,  
He spawned Platos and Aristotles;  
Somewhere his Alexanders  
Are mobilizing new young armies.  
For the Great John Lindsay  
The grave is not a decaying period  
But a bright blossoming colon:  
The movement is not yet murdered,  
Its fervor only temporarily stolen;  
The rivers of righteous anger  
Again are fully swollen.  
Alive nailed to an unjust cross  
Big John bled away alone;  
With resurrections of his disciplines  
New Lindsay miracles of the City  
Can still be carved in stone.

IN MEMORY OF MILTON ROEMER—  
ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING  
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCATES  
AND HEALTH POLICY THINKERS

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, one of the world's most thoughtful health policy experts and advocates, Dr. Milton L. Roemer has passed away. His brilliance and insights will be sorely missed by all those who were his students and who had the privilege of working with him.

Few of us in Congress ever get a law named after us, and even fewer people throughout the world get a law of nature or science named after themselves—but Roemer's law is a law that all of us in health policy and finance must live and deal with daily. In popular language, Roemer's law is "build it and they will come"—which he postulated way before the movie was ever dreamed of. In health policy, it means that in an insured population, if you add beds to a health care facility, they will get filled. In medicine and health care, supply can drive demand. The implications for health policy, costs, and financing are key to many of the problems we face and will be facing in the decades to come.

Roemer's law is just one of the innumerable contributions he gave the world. Since earning his medical degree 60 years ago, he worked on public health problems in 71 nations, published as sole author 20 books[!], co-authored 12 other books, and 430 articles. The doctor was obviously possessed of energy and talent almost beyond imagination.

Dr. Roemer earned the MD degree from New York University in 1940, along with a masters' degree in sociology from Cornell University in 1939, and a public health degree from the University of Michigan in 1943.

As a medical officer of the New Jersey State Health Department, he supervised 92 venereal disease clinics, as they were called in 1943. During World War II as a member of the commissioned corps of the US Public Health Service, he served as Assistant to the Chief Medical Officer of the War Food Administration and Associate in Medical Care Administration to the Chief of the State Relations Division. His 1948 book, written with F.D. Mott Rural Health and Medical Care was the first to analyze systematically rural health care needs and services in the United States.

As county health officer of Mononghela County, West Virginia, he introduced public health innovations, including pioneering a cancer detection clinic, for this mining community, against the objections of organized medicine. Dr. Roemer explained to the doctors that this screening clinic would provide more patients for them to treat. This experience led him later to establish a prize for a creative, local public health leader who had overcome opposition to advances in public health. He early called for the integration of public health and medical care and launched the Medical Care Section of the American Public Health Association.

Dr. Roemer's international work began in 1951 when he served as chief of the Social and Occupational Health Section of the newly formed World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. In 1953, in the midst of the McCarthy hysteria, he was forced to leave

Switzerland and his work as an international civil servant, when the US government withdrew approval of his appointment at WHO.

In 1953 the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, had just introduced hospital insurance for its people in this prairie province and was on the verge of extending it to include insurance for doctors' care Dr. Roemer was appointed Director of Medical and Hospital Services of the Saskatchewan Department of Public Health, North America's first social insurance program for hospital care.

After teaching at Yale and Cornell Universities, in 1962, Dr. Roemer came to the UCLA School of Public Health, where he taught health administration for 38 years and served as chairman of the Department of Health Services for eight years. The capstone of Dr. Roemer's many publications was his 2-volume work, National Health Systems of the World, a monumental, comparative analysis of national health systems of countries of the world set within a logical and coherent framework.

At UCLA, Dr. Roemer's research encouraged the development of not for profit HMOs, promoted the use of ambulatory care, and documented the need for a national health insurance covering the total population. He advocated the development of doctoral training in health administration to prepare students for leadership in public health practice and established an endowed fellowship to support students in this program.

The American Public Health Association awarded Dr. Roemer its International Award for Excellence in Promoting and Protecting the Health of People in 1977. In 1983, APHA awarded him its highest honor—the Sedgwick Memorial Medal for Distinguished Service in Public Health. In 1992, the Centers for Disease Control gave Dr. Roemer its Joseph W. Mountain Award. In 1997, he was given the Lifetime Achievement Award of the APHA International Health Section and the Distinguished Career Award of the Association for Health Services Research.

Dr. Roemer is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ruth Roemer, his son, John E. Roemer, of New York City, his daughter, Beth Roemer Lewis, of Berkeley, California; and six grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at UCLA in the spring. Contributions in Milton Roemer's memory may be made to the American Public Health Association, Washington, DC, the Department of Health Services, UCLA School of Public Health, or Physicians for Social Responsibility.

To repeat, America and the world have lost a wonderful teacher who truly had a sense of the whole and of the oneness of mankind—and that a just and honorable society should join in helping ensure that no member of that society goes without health care.

### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE R.P. "BOB" STRINGER

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend and constituent R.P. "Bob" Stringer who passed away on January 15, 2001, at Scott Regional Hospital in

Morton, Mississippi. Bob, as he was affectionately called by his close friends and colleagues, was preceded in death by his wife, Mrs. Mary Cooper Stringer, who died on the same date as Bob, two years ago.

Bob was a native of Noxubee County and lived in Forest, Mississippi, since 1960. He was a World War II veteran and was actively involved in veterans activities that enhanced and promoted esprit de corps among veteran organizations at the local, county, state, and national level. He was a member of the Forest Presbyterian Church, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the American Legion. He served as past county and district president of the Mississippi State University Alumni Association. He was also a past post commander of the VFW. As if this was not enough to keep him busy, he was a board member of the MF&G Association and served on the Forest Board of Aldermen for sixteen years.

My predecessor, former Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, was a very close friend of Bob's and has been quoted as saying that "Bob Stringer was really an All-American. He loved his family and country very much. He served in the Marine Corp at Iwo Jima and after the War he was very active in the VFW and the American Legion. He was proud of his community and served both the City of Forest and Scott County in a commendable manner. I have lost one of my closest friends."

Bob is survived by daughters, Anne Stringer Land and Jean Stringer Ellis; sons, Robert P. Stringer, Jr., and John Walter Stringer; their husbands and wives, thirteen grandchildren, one great grandchild, and one brother, John.

Bob was the originator of the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Annual Hunters Stew held in Forest and personally hosted it, along with members of the American Legion and VFW, for more than twenty-four years. He even continued this tradition after Congressman Montgomery stepped down from office in 1996 because he knew how much the community loved and respected "Sonny."

The legacy that I am sure Bob would want us to remember him by is his love for the Lord, his family, his friends, his country, his state, and by all means his love for the City of Forest and Scott County. Thus, it is an honor for me to express my appreciation, and that of all the citizens of the Third Congressional District, for his life of service and contributions to the betterment of our world.

### HONORING A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a law enforcement leader in Southwest Missouri.

John T. Pierpont has always had law enforcement blood running through his veins. John's personal experience with law enforcement began early in life; his father was Sheriff of Greene County. During the last two decades of the 20th century, the Sheriff of Greene County in Missouri was again a Pierpont, this time John.

John Pierpont started his law enforcement career as the U.S. Marshall for the 66 counties of western Missouri, a job he held for eight years.

In 1981 voters choose him to be sheriff and they re-elected him four more times. During that period, the facilities for law enforcement in Greene County underwent major transformation and the approach to fighting crime got a new more pro-active philosophy. John embraced public participation in crime prevention and quickly had in place a county wide series of "neighborhood watch" districts. The new sheriff also stepped up regular patrols to curb burglaries, thefts and vandalism. He made citizens partners with sheriff's office in the fight against criminal activity.

Perhaps the most startling change guided by Sheriff Pierpont was in the Greene County jail. The old jail, built more than 40 years ago, housed a hundred inmates in 1981. Pierpont pushed for more facilities and new technology. The last of three major modernizations and additions were underway at the time of his retirement. The new jail will house five hundred inmates in the most secure environment available.

John's leadership has also won him praise among his peers. He was elected President of both the Missouri Sheriff's Association and the National Sheriff's Association.

John has been an active leader at home, in our state and for the nation. You would find him in the field working on major crimes, directing manhunts and making sure that investigators had the tools to be thorough and professional. It's been evident during his time in office, that John Pierpont has enjoyed being the Sheriff of Greene County. It is equally evident that John's leadership has provided the citizens of this county a higher level of safety, law enforcement competence and protection for the lives and property of the people he has served during his 20 years as sheriff.

I know that my colleagues from Missouri join me in thanking John Pierpont for his years of making our state a safer place to live and wishing him well as he leaves the Greene County Sheriff's office and opens a new chapter in his life.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE EARL B.  
GILLIAM

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to say a few words in the memory of one of the outstanding jurists of our nation who passed away on January 28, 2001, after a long illness. The Honorable Earl B. Gilliam served on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, which includes the 50th Congressional District that I represent.

Judge Gilliam was born on August 17, 1931, in Clovis, New Mexico, and spent his early years in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. As a boy, he moved to San Diego, California with his family where he attended local primary and secondary schools before graduating from San Diego High School and later San Diego State University, with a business degree, in 1953.

Judge Gilliam's many years of distinguished service to the legal community began in 1957 when, having just graduated from Hastings College of Law, he was admitted to the California Bar and appointed Deputy District Attorney for the County of San Diego. In 1961, he

started his own general practice, and two years later Judge Gilliam was appointed to the Municipal Court, becoming the first African-American to sit on the San Diego bench. In 1971, Judge Gilliam became the Presiding Judge of the Municipal Court, and in 1975 he was elevated to the Superior Court by California Governor Jerry Brown. Five years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to serve on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

In his long and distinguished career, Judge Gilliam presided over numerous noteworthy trials of regional and national importance. Whether these cases dealt with drug trafficking, fraud, tax evasion, bribery or civil matters, Judge Gilliam's fair and professional approach to the law laid the foundation for his solid reputation both within and outside the legal community.

In 1969, Western State School of Law in San Diego (presently known as Thomas Jefferson School of Law) recruited Judge Gilliam as an adjunct professor. With a background in business administration, economics, civil and criminal law, and trial practice, Judge Gilliam proved to be an inspirational and devoted instructor for the Contracts, Torts, Criminal Law, Trusts, Community Property and Trial Practice courses.

In civic activities, Judge Gilliam actively promoted the value of education for youth, for women, and for his fellow lawyers. He generously gave time and effort to his community in countless ways. He served on the boards of numerous civic, professional and charitable organizations, including the YMCA, the Urban League, the Salvation Army, Western State University and the University of California at San Diego.

The community in turn, has repeatedly acknowledged his contributions. He was named Young Man of the Year by the San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1965 and Golden Man of the Year in 1981. In 1982 he was honored twice—he was the recipient of the prestigious Trial Judge of the Year award by the San Diego Trial Lawyer's Association and San Diego's African American Lawyer's Organization honored him by changing its name to the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association. Judge Gilliam was named Legal Professional of the Year in 1994 by the City Club and Chamber of Commerce and in 1995 he earned the Sharp Hospital Foundation's Eagle Spirit Award and the NAACP's Civil Rights Pioneer Award.

Mr. Speaker, we have lost not only one of our nation's great legal minds but a true friend who contributed so much to so many. He will be truly missed.

IN SUPPORT OF MIFEPRISTONE

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a pro-choice member of Congress who supports the recent FDA approved use of mifepristone, and I strongly oppose any efforts that would undermine the availability of mifepristone, also known as RU-486, to women who are seeking a safe method to terminate a pregnancy.

I recognize that there is misinformation out there on the use and access of this drug. But, the truth is mifepristone pills must be prescribed by a doctor, and the treatment is done under strict supervision of a medical professional. The first dose is taken at the doctor's office, and the second dose is taken 48 hours later. There are some doctors that allow women to take the second dose at home, but others require a clinic visit. It is also important to note that a woman can only take mifepristone up to 49 or 63 days from the date of her last menstrual period. This restriction is well within the laws of aborting a fetus in the first trimester.

Mifepristone has been laboriously studied and tested by FDA for 8 years. Nearly 10,000 American women have used this drug safely and effectively in clinical trials. Furthermore, Europeans have been using this drug for over 12 years.

Women in this country should have a choice to make decisions about their own fate. Abortion is legal, and women should be entitled to all medically proven safe options available, including mifepristone. Furthermore, I believe that women should be able to choose a less invasive procedure such as mifepristone rather than a surgical abortion.

Attempts to restrict a woman's access to this drug are not done to protect her safety, but rather to influence her choice. By allowing mifepristone to be prescribed by her own doctor, a woman can preserve her anonymity and be comfortable with her choice.

I have advocated for the approval of RU-486 for several years, in my past and current position. I truly believe that all women should have the right to make their own choices, and I hope that they will not be denied any safe and proven methods to make those decisions.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION STANDARDS ACT OF 2001

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join today with my colleague from South Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM, in introducing the Federal Election Standards Act of 2001.

Now that the dust has settled over the presidential election of 2000, I hope we will treat our recent experience as an opportunity to adopt long overdue reforms in the way we run our Federal elections. I hope we will enlist our best minds in the effort to develop better systems and procedures that will restore public confidence in the accuracy and integrity of the electoral process. And I hope we will provide State and local election officials with the wherewithal to take advantage of these improvements.

The Act seeks to advance these goals by establishing a bipartisan commission to study the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures and develop standards of best practice for the conduct of Federal elections. It further authorizes grants and technical assistance to States which wish to adopt measures consistent with the standards.

Title I of the Act establishes the National Advisory Commission of Federal Election

Standards (the "Commission"). Twelve of the 24 voting members of the Commission are appointed by Congress; the other 12 by leading State and local government associations. The Attorney General and the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission serve ex-officio as non-voting members.

In addition to ensuring a balance among Federal, State and local interests, the Act requires that the members of the Commission include equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats, and that larger and smaller states from all geographic regions be fairly represented.

The Commission will have three responsibilities which it must discharge within one year of its appointment. First, it will examine and report to the President, the Congress, and the State Secretaries of State regarding the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures in the several States.

Second, the Commission will develop a set of standards for the conduct of Federal elections and make recommendations with respect to the periodic review and updating of the standards. Among the issues to be addressed by the standards are (1) procedures for voter registration and maintenance of lists of registered voters; (2) ballot design, voting equipment, the methods employed in counting [and recounting] votes, and the procedures for challenging the results; (3) factors that affect access to and the efficient and orderly operation of polling places, including hours of voting (which may include standards for a uniform national poll closing time for presidential elections); number and accessibility of polling stations; training of poll workers; methods of reducing delay; and steps to ensure that all voters who report to the polls have an opportunity to cast their vote; and (4) procedures for mail-in and absentee voting (including deadlines for receipt of mail-in and absentee ballots).

Third, the Commission will make additional recommendations to Congress in regard to certain procedural aspects of Federal elections that are governed by Federal law (and would therefore require Congressional action to alter), such as whether Federal law should be amended to authorize Federal elections to be conducted (1) on dates other than those prescribed by current Federal law so as to permit weekend elections, voting on multiple days, or expanded early voting options; or (2) by means of the Internet.

Title II of the Act authorizes the FEC to provide matching grants and technical assistance to the States to improve the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures. The Federal share may not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of the program, project, or activity, although the FEC may waive this requirement in whole or in part where appropriate.

Grants may be used for programs, projects, and other activities whose purpose is to bring the conduct of Federal elections into conformity with the standards for Federal elections developed by the National Advisory Commission. Specifically, grants may be used to (1) hire employees or consultants to design and implement systems and procedures that meet the standards; (2) procure equipment, technology, and administrative and managerial support systems that meet the standards; (3) provide training or retraining to election officials, employees and volunteers in the proper use and maintenance of new systems and

procedures that meet the standards; (4) enhance public confidence and participation in the electoral process by increasing awareness of new systems and procedures that meet the standards; and (5) evaluate the effectiveness of new systems and procedures put in place through Federal assistance under the Act.

The Act would not mandate changes in State practices, nor would it federalize election procedures. Rather, it would encourage State election officials to upgrade and modernize their election systems by establishing benchmarks for the conduct of Federal elections and providing the States with the resources needed to meet them. In so doing, the Act gives maximum latitude to the states and localities in assessing their own needs and determining which solutions are most appropriate for their circumstances.

Recent announcements of collaborative ventures among academic researchers and technology companies have fueled expectations of a technological "fix" to our nation's election problems. Such initiatives as the one launched this past December by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Caltech are a very promising development, and ought to be encouraged.

On the other hand, we must resist the temptation to look for attractively simple—and simplistic—solutions. The latest hi-tech equipment will be expensive, and the best technology in the world will make little difference if voters and election workers don't know how to use it. Thus, while some jurisdictions may choose to acquire new technologies, others may feel their resources would be better spent on voter education and training of election workers.

I am hopeful that the Congress will take prompt action on this legislation, so that the most advanced nation on earth will have an electoral system that is second to none.

#### FEDERAL ELECTION STANDARDS ACT OF 2001

The Act establishes a bipartisan commission to study the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures and develop standards of best practice for the conduct of Federal elections. It further authorizes grants and technical assistance to States which wish to adopt measures consistent with the standards.

#### NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON FEDERAL ELECTION STANDARDS

Title I of the Act establishes the National Advisory Commission on Federal Election Standards (the "Commission"). Twelve of the 24 voting members of the Commission are appointed by Congress; the other 12 by State and local government associations. The Attorney General and the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission (the "FEC"), or their representatives, serve ex-officio as non-voting members of the Commission.

In addition to ensuring a balance among Federal, State and local interests, the Act requires that the members of the Commission include equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats, and that larger and smaller states from all geographic regions be fairly represented.

The Commission will have three responsibilities which it must discharge within one year of its appointment. First, it will examine and report to the President, the Congress, and the State Secretaries of State regarding the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures in the several States.

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tions and make recommendations with respect to the periodic review and updating of the standards. Among the issues to be addressed by the standards are (1) procedures for voter registration and maintenance of lists of registered voters; (2) ballot design, voting equipment, the methods employed in counting [and recounting] votes, and the procedures for challenging the results; (3) factors that affect access to and the efficient and orderly operation of polling places, including hours of voting (which may include standards for a uniform national poll closing time for presidential elections); number and accessibility of polling stations; training of poll workers; methods of reducing delay; and steps to ensure that all voters who report to the polls have an opportunity to cast their vote; and (4) procedures for mail-in and absentee voting (including deadlines for receipt of mail-in and absentee ballots).

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#### FEDERAL ELECTION STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Title II of the Act authorizes the FEC to provide matching grants and technical assistance to the States to improve the accuracy, integrity, and efficiency of Federal election procedures. The Federal share may not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of the program, project, or activity, although the FEC may waive this requirement in whole or in part where appropriate.

Grants may be used for programs, projects and other activities whose purpose is to bring the conduct of Federal elections into conformity with the standards for Federal elections developed by the National Advisory Commission. Specifically, grants may be used to (1) hire employees or consultants to design and implement systems and procedures that meet the standards; (2) procure equipment, technology, and administrative and managerial support systems that meet the standards; (3) provide training or retraining to election officials, employees and volunteers in the proper use and maintenance of new systems and procedures that meet the standards; (4) enhance public confidence and participation in the electoral process by increasing awareness of new systems and procedures that meet the standards; and (5) evaluate the effectiveness of new systems and procedures put in place through Federal assistance under the Act.

CONGRATULATING GENE BESS, COACH OF THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL, ON HIS 880TH WIN AND FOR BEING THE WINNINGEST COACH IN JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, Vince Lombardi once said, "Leadership rests not only upon ability, not only upon capacity; having the capacity to lead is not enough. The



leader must be willing to use it. His leadership is then based on truth and character. There must be truth in the purpose and will power in the character."

While Vince Lombardi coached football, the same thoughts regarding his life and leadership can be applied to Coach Gene Bess of Three Rivers Community College. As a coach for Three Rivers, Gene has had amazing career that has spanned three decades. During that time, he has proven that a true leader leads not simply with words, but through example. Without a doubt, Gene Bess has lived his life—on and off the court—as an example of what many of us strive to achieve in life.

Now, Gene stands on the threshold of a remarkable accomplishment. This month, Gene will set a record that only few in coaching have reached when he secures his 880th win as the coach of the Three Rivers Community College Men's Basketball Team. No longer will he be exactly like the 212 other coaches in the National JC Athletic Association Division I. Sure, like those coaches and the others who influence the lives of their players day in and day out, he will place a whistle around his neck, don a pair of athletic shoes, and stand on the sidelines coaching and cheering his players on to victory. But unlike those coaches, his hard work, determination, and dedication to being a positive influence in the lives of his players, has placed him in a special class that is set aside for coaches like John Wooden, Mike Krzyzewski, Dean Smith and Mizzou's own Norm Stewart.

The leadership and dedication that Gene Bess demonstrates on the court does not end at the final buzzer. Instead, it translates into his personal and public life. He has been married for nearly 40 years and is a deacon at First Baptist Church of Poplar Bluff where he has attended Sunday Service in service to God for 30 years. He still lives on his same street—Sunset Avenue—that he has jogged nearly every morning for more than two decades. And most of all, he has an unwavering code that he lives by which reflects his common sense, nose to the grindstone attitude. As Tony Jimenez noted in the Juco Report, "Basketball is not number one in his life, in or out of the season, he puts faith first, family second, and the game third."

In a society where it oftentimes seems so difficult to find heroes, I am honored and privileged to have a man who exemplified the character of a leader, right here in our own community. Gene Bess is that type of a man. He is a man of purpose who has a way of understanding that people, when working together—on the court, in their church or in their community—can have a positive and memorable impact on the lives of each and everyone they meet throughout the journey of life.

As the same article by Tony Jimenez mentions, Gene Bess has a reputation for winning

that is build on a foundation of leadership, truth, and respect for all those who work with him. Jimenez stated, "What has bode well for Bess' reputation is his unwillingness to bend to give certain issues when it comes to his team and the players. He doesn't swear. He doesn't just talk about an open door policy, the players know that his door is always open. He treats his players with the respect all coaches talk about, but not all of them follow through on. He carries himself with the aura of a major college coach, but he is just as a accessible, honest and down to earth as, well, a juco coach in a small town in Missouri."

It's often been said that success is not measured by great wealth or material treasures. Instead, success is measured on the person you are, the life you live, and how your life influences the lives of others. If that is true, and I believe that it is, then we are all richer for knowing Gene Bess. Mr. Speaker, on this very special occasion, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Coach Bess and the Three Rivers Raiders on this milestone and wish them every happiness for the future. Thank you.

#### PROVIDING GRANTS FOR 100,000 RESOURCE-BASED STAFF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2001*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to re-introduce a bill that provides 100,000 Resource-Based Staff for our public schools to help students cope with the stress and anxieties of adolescence. This bill is similar to HR 2982, which I introduced in the 106th Congress.

None of us will ever forget the tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, where two student gunmen killed 12 classmates and a teacher before taking their own lives. Why did this happen? What could make children from a seemingly typical upbringing turn so violent? And what can we do to ensure that our children will be safe at school?

I don't know if we will ever find all of the answers. I believe that ultimately, we must look to our culture and within our own families to find some of the answers. Congress owes it to our children to work on policies that can bring about change.

First, we must look to substantive preventative measures. Security guards, metal detectors, and expelling violent students all have their place in addressing this problem. But they do nothing to prevent tragedies from occurring.

Ultimately, we must work with children to ensure they can handle their anger and emo-

tions without resorting to violence. Many of our children enter school with emotional, physical, and interpersonal barriers to learning. We need more school counselors in our schools, not only to help identify these troubled youths, but to work on developmental skill building.

Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher has said that appropriate interventions made during or prior to adolescence can direct young people away from violence toward healthy and constructive lives. The window of opportunity for effective interventions opens early and rarely, if ever, closes. Thus, prevention is the best guard against youth violence.

We have no real infrastructure of support for our kids when it comes to mental health services in our schools. The most recent statistics indicate that there are 90,000 guidance counselors for approximately 41.4 million students in our public schools. That translates to 1 counselor for every 513 students. In Hawaii, we have only 1 counselor for every 525 students. In California, there is only 1 counselor for more than 1,000 students. That is simply not enough.

With current counselors responsible for such large numbers of students, they are unable to address the students' personal needs. Instead, their role is more often administrative, scheduling, and job and college counseling. The child is forfeited for different goals.

My bill will put 100,000 new resource staff in our schools to focus on the mental health needs of students. This will make it easier for children to get the attention they need.

This resource staff will be hired to address the personal, family, peer level, emotional, and developmental needs of students, enabling them to detect early warning signs of troubled youth. They will improve student interaction and school safety. In a nutshell, they can help save children's lives.

The resource staff can also consult with teachers and parents about student learning, behavior, and emotional problems. They can develop and implement prevention programs and deal with substance abuse. They can set up peer mediation, and they can enhance problem solving in schools. Resource staff will provide important support services to students, and to parents and teachers on behalf of the students.

This legislation should be the cornerstone of a much larger proposal. We must address the media's impact on violence and the easy accessibility of guns. We must strengthen our programs for families and early childhood development, and we must develop character education programs.

If we really are serious about addressing school violence, we must address prevention.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.